FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 OCTOBER 1984

Lebanon

Syrian, Israeli Comment — Syria has not entered any direct or indirect negotiations with Israel and it has never agreed to enter such negotiations, Damascus radio contended in a commentary on Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's recent remarks about Syria's willingness to enter indirect negotiations. Stressing that this "imperialist-Zionist psychological war" against Syria will not succeed in dragging it into "unilateral negotiations, side contacts, or any other form of bargaining," the radio affirmed that arrangements for an Israeli withdrawal are the responsibility of the Lebanese Government, not Syria. "He who seeks security arrangements with Lebanon must knock on the Lebanese door and search for the suitable framework," the radio added.

Nevertheless, Israeli Defense Minister Rabin affirmed in a Jerusalem television interview that there is a "reasonable chance" of reaching an "indirect understanding" with the Syrians, whose initial reaction to U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy's visit was "not disappointing." Asserting that the problem with Syria may be easier than with Prime Minister Rashid Karami's government, Rabin opined that the Syrians want Israel to withdraw because the IDF presence in Lebanon restricts their ability to threaten Jordan.

Security Situation — Nine "terrorists" were killed and three IDF soldiers were wounded in two more incidents in the south, Jerusalem radio reported. The "terrorists" have stepped up their attempts to infiltrate southward across the Al-Awwali River, the radio disclosed. Further north, the Lebanese Army clashed with Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) militia in the Suq al-Gharb area, according to Voice of Lebanon radio, which blamed the PSP for initiating the violence.

Reforms — Commenting on his recent talks with President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus, Minister of State Nabih Birri said the Syrian leader had indicated a desire for the Lebanese Government to speed up the implementation of reforms, Beirut radio reported.

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi communique broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio said that the Iraqi Air Force and II Army Corps continued to pound Iranian positions in the Sayf Sa'd area, Iraq's term for the battle zone referred to by Iran as "Meymak." The Iranians lost another 354 men killed and 1 helicopter shot down, the communique claimed. An Iranian communique cited by IRNA reported artillery exchanges in the Meymak area.

Iraq-Turkey

Iraq and Turkey have agreed that forces from either side may pursue "subversive groups" into the other's territory provided the pursuit is "vital" and lasts no more than 3 days, the Iraqi information minister told INA.

Syria-Libya

Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam arrived in Libya where he discussed the regional situation and bilateral relations with Libya's Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, Damascus radio reported.

Egypt

Military Cooperation With UK — Defense Minister 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah discussed military cooperation with Great Britain during talks with visiting British Defense Secretary Michael Heseltine, MENA reported.

Mubarak Interview — In an *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* interview reported by MENA, President Mubarak urged the Palestinians to "act now" to formulate their own "practical initiative" to revive the Palestinian issue and solve the problem. Asked about relations with Syria, Mubarak said no contacts have taken place since President al-Asad's illness, but he added that Egypt and Syria will "inevitably meet again."

PLO

Beginning a visit to Jordan, PLO Leader Yasir 'Arafat said his talks with King Husayn will deal with holding the PNC session in Amman, according to Amman radio. Meanwhile, Riyadh radio cited reports that the PNC will hold its extraordinary session in Amman "in the next few days." However, PNC speaker Khalid al-Fahum asserted that he has "no inkling" of the PNC convocation or the time set for it by Yasir 'Arafat, Kuwait's *AL-WATAN* revealed.

In a related development, a PFLP statement cited by Damascus radio supported the restoration of "comprehensive" PLO unity. As for the DFLP stance, a statement after a recent DFLP meeting stressed commitment to the Aden-Algiers agreement for restoring unity and securing democratic reform of the PLO institutions, "especially its leadership," Aden Voice of Palestine radio revealed.

Pakistan

An official Pakistani spokesman denied a PTI report which claimed that there had been clashes between Pakistani and Indian troops on the Kashmir border, according to Karachi radio. As for internal affairs, a bomb blast in a Peshawar theater caused 2 deaths and 21 injuries, AFP reported, while another 3 persons were injured in a blast in Islamabad.

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'Arafat on PNC Session, Relations With USSR, Others

LD241945 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1755 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Kuwait, 24 Oct (KUNA) — Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat confirmed here tonight that a meeting of the PNC will be held next month. He said this decision cannot be revoked, adding that he could not halt the work of the PLO. He told Palestinian leaders living in Kuwait that the meeting of Palestinian officials in Tunis this month recommended convening the PNC. He disclosed that he received invitations from Iraq, Iran, and Jordan to host the PNC, and said that with regard to Iran he wished first for the Iraq-Iran war to be ended and then to convene the PNC there. He pointed out that it has not yet been decided where the council will meet.

'Arafat said: "We have made big concessions to our brothers in the other Palestinian groups, not from a position of weakness but rather from a certain degree of patience." 'Arafat left the country later this evening for Amman after a quick visit to Kuwait during which he met with senior officials.

"Our relations with the USSR are good and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko has briefed me on the results of his talks in the United States," 'Arafat said.

'Arafat spoke about the Islamic Good Offices Committee which is trying to end the Iraq-Iran conflict, and said that the PLO, as a member of this Committee, has prepared a military file on the positioning of Islamic disengagement military forces between Iraq and Iran. However, he noted that the two warring countries have requested postponing a meeting 'Arafat called for recently to discuss this plan. He said he has sent an envoy to Tehran and has visited Iraq and sent a message to Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi within the framework of his efforts to concentrate contacts to achieve a cease-fire in the Gulf war.

Concerning the recent tour of the Middle East by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, he said: "What a difference between the Arabs, the press, and him!"

He explained that Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, has contacted the leader of the Lebanese Amal movement, Nabih Birri, and requested an explanation for accepting the American plan to ensure the nonreturn of the Palestinian resistance to Lebanon and the protection of the Israeli occupiers' northern borders. He reaffirmed that the Palestinian resistance is participating in the struggle against the Israeli occupier in south Lebanon.

'Arafat Adviser Welcomes Renewed Egypt-Jordan Ties

NC241541 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1510 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 24 Oct (MENA) — Majdi Abu Ramadan, political adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, has personally welcomed the restoration of relations between Egypt and Jordan. Abu Ramadan, who is currently visiting Cairo, said he hopes that other Arab countries will follow Jordan's example because the unity of Arab ranks is the best weapon to confront the dangers facing the Palestinians and the Arab nation. The Palestinian official added that President Husni Mubarak's call for unification in the Palestinian ranks is something that should be done because thisunity serves the interest of the Palestinian issue and the dangers facing the Arab nation.

Majdi Abu Ramadan met earlier today with Ambassador Taha al-Farnawani, head of the Palestinian desk at the Foreign Ministry, as part of the continued consultations between Egypt and the PLO.

Fatah's Hani al-Hasan Interviewed on PNC Meeting

GF241158 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0935 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Doha, 24 Oct (WAKH) — Fatah Central Committee member Mr Hani al-Hasan said it was most likely that the next PNC meeting will be held in Amman. He added that a delegation from Fatah is currently negotiating with Jordanian officials on preparations for convening the council in Amman and that Jordan has not set a price for holding the PNC on its soil.

In a statement published today in the Qatari newspaper *AL-RAYAH*, Mr Hani al-Hasan explained that during its forthcoming session, the PNC will discuss Jordanian-Palestinian relations in light of previous PNC resolutions and of the existing situation. He expected that the Jordanian side will explain its stand on a Palestinian bill that bears a future formula for a confederation between both sides. He also said that the council will discuss relations with Egypt in light of its stand on the Palestinian question, pointing out that Egypt has stated that one of its priorities calls for the establishment of a Palestinian state and not merely the autonomy called for by the Camp David agreements.

The Palestinian official called on all Palestinian revolution factions to take part in the PNC meeting, stressing that Palestinian national unity is priceless and that all factions must proceed to the PNC with an open heart and readiness for dialogue. He noted in this regard that the plot to obstruct the holding of the PNC meeting has started to recess, as evidenced by the fact that the opposing parties and their supporters are demanding that the Central Council convene. However, he ruled out the possibility of convening the Central Council before the PNC is held.

Mr al-Hasan said that the PLO is pinning a lot of hope on the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine for its response regarding the matter of convening the PNC despite the withdrawal of the PFLP with which it is allied through the Democratic Alliance. He pointed out that the dialogue with the PFLP would continue even if it did not attend the PNC meeting. He then expressed the belief that the opposition would eventually find itself committed to respond to the inclinations of the Palestinian people and to join the march of national unity.

DFLP Issues Statement on PLO Crisis, PNC

GF241500 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text of statement issued by the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] at the end of its 21 October meeting]

[Text] The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] held a comprehensive session on the current PLO situation. The meeting also dealt with Palestinian, Arab, and Syrian developments as they related to the PLO crisis. The meeting expressed its full support for the Political Bureau of the DFLP in the steps it has taken in accordance with the DFLP Central Committee's general directives since the beginning of the crisis.

The DFLP Central Committee stressed that keeping the PLO operative has become a national issue of the highest priority. The DFLP stated that the stormy crisis which has lasted 18 months, the destructive internal disputes, and regional complications accompanying these disputes have undermined the position and status of the PLO. The existence of the PLO has been subjected to a permanent danger which is becoming more fundamental and threatening at this stage when Arab-reactionary-U.S. preparations are being made to replace the PLO with Jordan as the representative of the Palestinian people. This is the main condition of the hegemonic Reagan plan.

The DFLP also stressed that protecting the PLO from the dangers of division and fragmentation is currently a pressing task. It also called for unification of ranks to defend the PLO's unity and independence. Based on this central objective, the DFLP Central Committee has adopted the following resolutions:

1. The DFLP resolutely stresses its commitment to the Aden-Algiers agreement and all its provisions, as it is considered to be a suitable basis for restoring unity in the PLO; securing the solidarity of its national policy which is against imperialism, Zionism, and ridiculous solutions; and securing democratic reformation of the PLO institutions especially its leadership institutions including the Secretariat, Executive Committee, and Central Council.

2. Tribute must be paid to the roles played and still being played by the PDRY and Algerian leadership in exerting extensive efforts in order to resolve the PLO crisis by restoring its unity, removing all obstacles from its path, and strengthening its relations with fraternal Syria through implementation of the Syrian-PLO agreement.

3. Extensive efforts must be made toward convening the 17th session of the PNC as soon as possible, on the basis of the Aden-Algiers agreement. All fraternal and friendly sides must be called upon to exert efforts toward the convening of the PNC and putting an end to the state of paralysis within the PLO institutions — the Executive Committee, Central Council, and National Council. These institutions should be revitalized and reconstructed on the basis of adherence to agreements. Our people and our front are extremely anxious to have the PNC convene as soon as possible on the basis of total Palestinian national unity. However, the DFLP will reject and resist any exploitation attempt from one or more sides to delay the national unity march and prolong the paralysis of and division within the PLO.

4. We urgently call on all factions of the revolution and Palestinian forces and personalities, without exception, to hold a comprehensive national dialogue so that a national agreement on ending the crisis can be reached and the pillars of a national unity can be anchored within the framework of a united and developed PLO.

5. The DFLP stresses its support for and adherence to the initiative of the Democratic Alliance for its readiness to resume dialogue with the National Alliance as soon as the latter announces its consent for a comprehensive national dialogue with all the PLO sides and national groups participating, without exception and without preconditions. Dialogue among allies must be conducted within the framework of a comprehensive national dialogue and not outside of it. This means rejecting any attempt to change the course of the dialogue among allies in the direction of establishing divisive axes or using it as a means of announcing a replacement for the PLO or a parallel organization to assume Palestinian leadership.

6. Efforts must be continued to restore the unity of popular Palestinian unions and organizations on the bases of their infrastructure and in accordance with the Aden-Algiers agreement. Divisive plans must be rejected and denounced, especially those aimed at fragmenting the unions, such as the writers and labor unions. Intensive efforts must be exerted toward reestablishing the Palestinian national front inside the occupied land which will be a fundamental pillar of the PLO and our national unity.

7. Improvements in Syrian-Palestinian relations must be pursued, and all obstacles impeding the course of these improvements must be removed. In this regard our people and front would like to express gratitude for the efforts of our faithful friends, the Soviet Union, the PDRY, Algeria, and all progressive Arab sides which support the PLO alliance with Syria. The national alliance between Syria and the PLO is an effective weapon with which to confront the reactionary U.S.-Zionist plots which aim to overshadow the main conflict with the imperialist Zionist enemy. These plots are designed to exaggerate and nurture any secondary disputes and conflicts within the Arab ranks. The national alliance between Syria and the PLO will guarantee an effective response to the plots of imperialists and their allies. The DFLP Central Committee calls upon all the factions of the Arab national liberation movement and all the world powers which support our struggle, foremost of which is the friendly Soviet Union to intensify efforts toward uniting the Arab national ranks.

8. The DFLP Central Committee stresses that joint leadership and the Democratic Alliance must be developed to bolster national unity and improve relations among various factions. All attempts to undermine the unity of joint leadership and the cohesion of the forces of the Democratic Alliance have failed and will fail.

9. A resolute agreement should be reached on the Soviet initiative on the Middle East crisis, which is based on holding an expanded international conference on this issue, with participation from the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of our people, in the struggle to secure its national rights including the establishment of its independent state.

Glory be to the revolution and the PLO. Long live the PLO-Syrian alliance and the alliance with the Arab liberation move-

ment. Long live the alliance of the PLO with the Soviet Union and all socialist countries. Victory be to the united PLO representing our people in regaining its rights of returning home, self-determination, and setting up an independent state. Down with the Camp David accords and the Reagan plan.

[Signed] DFLP Central Committee, 21 October 1984.

PFLP Group Urges Restoration of PLO Unity

JN241943 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] In a press statement distributed today, The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine emphasized its concern of restoring unity to the PLO ranks and of reviving its institutions as soon as possible on a basis that is hostile to imperialist and Zionist plans. The front expressed support for achieving comprehensive unity and building strong relations between the PLO on one side and Syria and other Arab national regimes on the other.

Arab Countries Ready To Recognize Two PLOs

GF241600 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 23 Oct 84 p 15

[Sattar Jabbar dispatch]

[Text] Khalid al-Fahum, PNC speaker, has reported that he has no information about the convocation of the PNC or to the time set for it by Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman.

In a telephone conversation with *AL-WATAN* from his residence in Damascus, Al-Fahum said that he was in favor of a comprehensive dialogue from the very beginning and that he is against the convocation of the PNC prior to the attainment of a comprehensive agreement. He said: Frankly speaking, any rift will lead to the creation of two PLOs. He added: There are a number of Arab countries ready to recognize one of them and others ready to recognize the other. That is how the matter will be.

Answering a question as to whether he has received an invitation from Yasir 'Arafat with regard to the convocation of the PNC, he said he has not receive any invitation or anything that signals the convocation of the PNC.

Al-Fahum told *AL-WATAN* that the delegation of the National Alliance, which will leave for Aden, will meet there with Dr George Habash, PFLP secretary general and Nayif Hawatimah, DFLP secretary general. He indicated that these meetings came in accordance with the efforts made by the brothers in the PDRY to move matters in the direction of the comprehensive solution.

As for the reports which indicate that Algiers refused to host the PNC before holding a comprehensive dialogue, Khalid al-Fahum said: I have no confirmed report on this issue. The information I have received is that Algeria refused to be the site of PLO disintegration. It welcomes the convocation of the PNC and prefers to have it h[illegible] on national bases.

On the visit of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to the Soviet Union and on reports regarding differences between Moscow and Damascus on a number of matters — for example, the position of Yasir 'Arafat as PLO chairman — Al-Fahum asserted that the visit was successful, contrary to reports carried by Western information media which tried to distort the visit. He said: I understand thatthere was total agreement between the Syrians and the Soviets on all issues.

Palestinian Delegation To Leave for PDRY

JN241935 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] A Palestinian National Alliance delegation will leave for the PDRY tomorrow at the invitation of the YSP Central Committee. The delegation will hold talks and consultations with PDRY leaders on the latest developments in both the Palestinian and Arab arenas, particularly following the Jordanian decision to restore relations with the Husni Mubarak regime and the implications this has on the situation in the region.

Syria, U.S. Caused Burj Al-Barajinah Clashes

JN241933 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1627 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The reports that news agencies disseminated yesterday and the day before on the violent clashes that took place in the Burj al-Barajinah camp in west Beirut — and which the news agencies, particularly the Western ones, described as a reflection of Palestinian political discord — are untrue. We said yesterday that these reports are untrue, and we enumerated the reasons that make us absolutely certain that they are untrue. Facts became clearer after we received information from Beirut confirming our analysis. This information affirmed that the Burj al-Barajinah clashes occurred when Syrian intelligence groups and agent instruments of Ahmad Jibril waged a blatant attack against the Fatah elements in the camp. These agent elements fired on a crowd of Palestinian citizens who were paying tribute to a Palestinian martyr from Fatah. Two were martyred and several other citizens were injured by this fire, which forced Fatah elements to immediately retaliate against the crime of the Syrian intelligence groups and agent instruments.

Naturally, the incident is significant, because it is not merely a clash that took place accidentally. It was deliberately fabricated for specific political objectives. To be more precise, we refer to the agreement that Richard Murphy made last month with Hafiz al-Asad. This agreement stipulates two main points: First, the Syrian regime will continue its very useful role — the expression used by Murphy in describing the Syrian role in Lebanon —not to permit the PLO fighters to return to Lebanon and willto continue to do this in the future. Second, the Syrian regime pledges to ensure security for the enemy entity's northern border.

Before the Murphy-Al-Asad agreement was reached, news agencies, particularly the Western press, were reporting 2 months ago that more than 2,000 PLO fighters were returning to Beirut.

These fighters were described as pro-'Arafatists in a naive attempt to support the Syrian regime's claims and media fallacies about PLO discord and to show the discord in the Palestinian arena as intra-Palestinian differences. This plan created discord and escalated it in various forms, through its treacherous agent instruments. These reports maintained a political cover in order to enable the Syrian regime to pursue its very useful role in Lebanon — according to Murphy's expression. This role is aimed at liquidating Palestinian armed presence throughout Lebanon. Tripoli in 1983 is the most obvious and violent evidence of this role. Therefore, press reports were paving the way for the Syrian regime to continue its pursuit of the Palestinian revolution's sons in Lebanon. What took place in the Burj al-Barajinah camp yesterday and the day before merely emphasizes the Syrian regime's commitment and adherence to U.S. conditions as set forth in the Murphy-Al-Asad agreement. Nevertheless, the Burj al-Barajinah clashes stressed the failure of the Syrian regime and its agent instruments in achieving this disgraceful and conspiratorial objective.

It is important to note here that the Western press reports which noted the PLO fighters' return to Beirut are fabricated and false, because there is actually no such return of PLO fighters to Beirut. We do not reveal any secrets when we say that the Palestinian revolution has not left Lebanon, as some people imagine. The revolution of a people exists where those people exist. Our people have closely adhered to the revolution and have formed its basic strength, which has always protected it from liquidation. Our revolution always remained where our struggling Palestinian masses existed. This is not a sheer slogan that we raise for boasting or for mobilization purposes. On the contrary, this is a deeply-rooted and objective fact that has a great deal of evidence. This evidence has forced the U.S. Administration and the Israeli enemy — which failed to liquidate the Palestinian revolution — to intensify their destructive attempts against the PLO and to link any settlement plan in the region to the condition of destroying the PLO. This condition has been entirely approved by the Syrian regime, which has been using all means in the past 2 years in an effort to achieve this end.

Therefore, the Burj al-Barajinah clashes of yesterday and the day before are only an implementation by the Syrian side of the most important clause of the Murphy-Al-Asad agreement. The clashes are merely a continuation of the pursuit of our hero revolutionaries in order to finally expel them from Lebanon. The clashes are also aimed at fully implementing the Murphy-Al-Asad agreement. However, the course of events will certainly notproceed according to the willpower of our nation's enemies and those plotting against it. The coming days will prove that this is true.

Arab Industrial Conference Ends in Damascus

JN241310 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text]The sixth Arab Industrial Development Conference on the Arab industry ministers level concluded its meetings under Syrian Industry Minister Mahmud Qaddur in the Umayyad Hall of the Al-Sham Hotel this morning. During the session the conferees discussed the final report and recommendations approved by the conference.

The conference issued a statement reviewing the current international economic crisis and its effects on the Arab states. This crisis has retarded the rate of development and increased inflation and interest rates on local and international loans. The statement points out that the Arab states alone can no longer produce sound economic development. This is why efforts must be mobilized toward joint Arab action to create a firm economic Arab bloc that possesses means of survival and the ability to compete with economic blocs. The statement called on the Arab states to reach a practical formula for Arab economic cooperation in a form of joint Arab projects that would guarantee the integration of regional interests and develop pan-Arab interests.

The statement called on the EEC states to open their markets to Arab raw materials and production by removing obstacles, restrictions, and protective measures.

The conference formed a ministrial committee to follow up implementation of the sixth Arab Industrial Conference resolutions and recommendations under Syrian Industry Ministry Mahmud Qaddur and with the membership of the Tunisian economy minister and the Jordanian industry minister. It was also agreed that the seventh conference will convene 3 years from now in Tunis.

The Syrian minister of industry and the director general of the Arab Industrial Development Organization will hold a news conference at 1000 tomorrow, Thursday, in the Al-Sham Hotel to discuss the most important resolutions and recommendations of the conference.

Saudi, Norwegian Oil Ministers To Hold Oslo Talks

LD241404 Kuwait KUNA in English 1333 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Geneva, Oct 24 (KUNA) — The Saudi oil minister, Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, is to go to Oslo on Thursday after his talks in Nigeria, to see if Norway will cooperate in stabilising the oil market. Norway's cut in its North Sea oil price last week by $1.50 a barrel triggered off the downward spiral on prices and opened the way for a potential price war. Yamani's talks in Oslo were confirmed by the Norwegian Oil and Energy Department. He will meet Friday with Norway's Oil Minister Kaare Kristiansen. The Norwegians have already announced they will not accept OPEC demands to cut their North Sea output to help shore up prices.

NOTIMEX: Labastida To Seek Reverse of Price Drop

FL250016 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1842 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Oct (NOTIMEX) — Mexico's Secretary of Energy, Mines, and Parastate Industry, Francisco Labastida Ochoa, and Saudi Arabia's minister of petroleum and natural resources, Ahmad Zaki Yamani, went to Lagos, Nigeria, today to clarify their understanding of Nigeria's position on its petroleum exports. The Energy Secretariat [SEMIP] reported that the two officials, who are heading a delegation from eight petroleum countries, will meet with Nigerian Head of State Muhammadu Buhari to ask him to reconsider his decision to lower petroleum prices.

Yamani, representing Saudi Arabia, OPEC's largest crude oil producer, and Labastida, representing Mexico, the largest exporter among non-OPEC countries, will express the other exporting countries' disagreement with Nigeria's policy.

The secretariat added that in private talks with Buhari, Labastida Ochoa would reiterate Mexico's position of acting calmly but firmly to protect the world hydrocarbon market. SEMIP also said that if next winter is a hard one in the industrialized nations, the demand for petroleum would be higher and conditions for energy consumers would be precarious in 6 or 8 months when their reserves are about to run out.

The secretariat warned that at that point, the speculative conditions that they are now trying to impose to lower oil prices could turn against them.

Referring to the possibility of a meeting next year between the petroleum-producing countries' energy ministers and those of the major consumer nations, SEMIP said that such a meeting would determine the evolution of the world market.

Iraqi Oil Minister Criticizes Price Cuts

JN251055 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1020 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Oct (INA) — Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi has described the decision by Britain and Norway to reduce their North Sea oil prices as a means to disturb the world oil market as well as an attempt to weaken OPEC and foil its sincere endeavors to stabilize prices. In a statement to INA today, the minister said that the decision by OPEC member Nigeria to unilaterally reduce its prices confirms the attempts being made by Britain and Norway to harm OPEC and the interests of its member states by forcing the weakest link in this organization to adopt unilateral stands and decisions.

The oil minister emphasized that certain industrial states and world oil monopolies have always been the source of world economic crises and their negative effects on the developing countries, especially the OPEC member states. He pointed out that OPEC member states, which showed understanding and sympathy toward Nigeria during the last ministerial council by permitting it to increase its monthly production quota for August and September by 100,000 barrels per day respectively, had expected full response and commitment to the organization's resolutions and recommendations. However, they did not get such a response.

The minister said: Nigeria should have resorted to the organization's ministerial council in its capacity as the quarter to be consulted on such important matters, which concern not just one, but all the members.

He added: While expressing our dissatisfaction with Nigeria's decision, we announce our rejection of any unilateral decisions that seek to present OPEC with a fait accompli.

The minister expressed hope that all OPEC member states will show a sense of responsibility to protect their common interests and avert the dangers threatening them.

KUWAIT

U.S. Embassy Denies Receiving Bomb Threats

GF241244 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0930 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Kuwait, 24 Oct (WAKH) — A responsible source at the U.S. Embassy in Kuwait has denied that the embassy here received bomb threats or warnings. The Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-QABAS*, published here today, quoted the source — the first press secretary at the U.S. Embassy in Kuwait — as saying that he had no information on this issue. The embassy official made his statement while commenting on what was mentioned by U.S. journalist Jack Anderson that the embassy, together with other U.S. embassies in the region, was put on maximum alert after receiving bomb threats.

Defense Minister Receives Brazilian Delegation

LD241239 Kuwait KUNA in English 1047 GMT 24 Oct 84

[By Captain Badir Salih]

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 24 (KUNA) — Defense Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah discussed with the visiting Brazilian military delegation means of promoting amicable relations between the two countries, particularly in the military field. The meeting was attended by the ministry's undersecretary and the Brazilian ambassador to Kuwait.

A committee grouping representatives of the Kuwaiti Army, Navy and Air Force headed by Commander of the Artillery Brigadier General 'Umar Zuwaytir earlier met with the Brazilian delegates. A number of Brazilian-made weapons were displayed to Army specialists who studied those suitable to the Kuwait Armed Forces.

A lunch banquet was held in honor of the guests who arrived here late Tuesday on a three-day official visit aimed at marketing their country's arms industry.

'Arafat Meets With Prime Minister 24 Oct

JN241736 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met with Kuwaiti Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah at noon today. Our correspondent said that during the meeting they discussed the latest developments in the Palestine question and the current Arab situation. The meeting was attended on the Palestinian side by the PLO representative in Kuwait, and on the Kuwaiti side by 'Isa al-Rujayb, minister of social affairs, labor, and housing.

It is worth noting that Brother Abu 'Ammar arrived in Kuwait from Jeddah this morning on a short visit to Kuwait within his current Arab tour. He met in Jeddah yesterday with King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia. Our correspondent said that Abu 'Ammar and the Saudi monarch discussed the latest developments in both the Arab and Palestinian arenas. He also met with ICO Secretary General Habib Chatti in the Saudi capital yesterday. Our correspondent said that they discussed the latest developments in the Palestinian, Arab and international arenas, as well as developments in the Iraq-Iran war and the means to halt it.

Meets Deputy Prime Minister, Departs

LD241738 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] PLO Leader Yasir 'Arafat has met with Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister, minister of foreign affairs and minister of information. During the meeting the current Arab situation was discussed. Yasir 'Arafat left the country this afternoon after a 1-day visit. He was seen off at the airport by Hamad 'Isa al-Rujayb, minister of social affairs and labor and minister of housing.

QATAR

Kuwaiti Official Delivers GCC Invitation

GF241106 Doha QNA in Arabic 0910 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Doha, 24 Oct (QNA) — Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani has received a written message from Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah. The message was delivered by the Kuwaiti amir's adviser, Mr 'Abd al-Rahman Salim al-'Atiqi, during his meeting this morning with Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari deputy amir and heir apparent. The meeting was attended by Mr 'Abdallah ibn Nasir al-Suwaydi, Qatari minister of communication and transport; Mr 'Abdallah ibn Khalifah al-'Atiyah, director of the deputy amir and heir apparent's office; and Mr 'Abd al-Rahman al-Bakr, Kuwaiti ambassador in Doha.

QNA has learned that the message included an invitation to the Qatari amir to attend the fifth summit conference of the GCC states to be held in Kuwait from 27 to 29 November. The Kuwaiti amir's adviser left Doha afterward for Muscat at the conclusion of his brief visit to Qatar within his tour of the GCC countries to deliver similar messages to their leaders.

SAUDI ARABIA

Riyadh Comments on Need for Palestinian Unity

LD241128 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Husayn al-Askari commentary]

[Text] There have been reports to the effect that an informed Palestinian source has said that the PNC will hold its extraordinary session in Amman in the next few days. However, it seems that reaching a formula for an agreement among the leaderships of the Palestinian organizations on convening a council meeting has been irresolvably obstructed. It is clear from the latest statements of PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat that attempts to reach such an agreement have now reached a dead-end.

Irrespective of statements and counterstatements exchanged between the leaderships of the Palestinian resistance during the past 18 months, the current situation is to be regretted as the internal conflicts have begun to threaten the substance of Palestinian resistance. The contradictions in the attitudes of the Palestinian resistance — although not yet at a dangerous level — will bring matters to an head unless they are brought under control. Although differences in opinion at first constituted a healthy phenomenon in reaching beyond confrontational dialogue to achieve the most effective formula for attaining the objective of the forces of Palestinian struggle, the transformation of this dialogue into armed clashes — which led at one stage to Palestinian weapons facing one another, as at Tripoli, Lebanon — means that the Palestinian arena is allowing its stubborn enemy to deal the blow it has long been waiting to deliver.

The enormity of the challenges facing the Palestinian people dictates that their forces should be able to respond to these challenges, particularly now when the enemy and its supporting forces are attempting to redraw the political map of the Arab-Israeli conflict [words indistinct]. The independence of the Palestinian decision can only be protected by unity in the Palestinian resistance, which continues to be the hope — after God's care and successful guidance — for the recovery of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. This is without doubt what the forces of struggle are striving to achieve.

UAE

Foreign Minister Carries Zayid's Message to New Delhi

GF250812 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0740 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 25 Oct (WAKH) — Mr Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, left Abu Dhabi for New Delhi today on a 2-day visit to India. Mr 'Abdallah is carrying a written message from UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan to Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on bilateral relations and issues of common interest.

PDRY

Supreme People's Council Holds Session

GF241603 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text of the political report presented by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, to the Supreme People's Council during its 18th regular session — read by announcer]

[Excerpts]O brothers, deputies of the peoples. The session of your esteemed council is being held to discuss the issues on its agenda. Permit us to present the following report on the country's activities in domestic and foreign affairs during the past months and during the period between the two sessions.

The past months have witnessed active efforts to implement the programs, the 4th-year plans of the 5-year plan and the resolutions of your council. The follow-up of the implementation of the economic plan received all the attention of the state organs. The indicators point out that more positive results will be achieved this year, thanks to the efforts which are being exerted by the workers and the masses. There is a further accumulation of more planning, statistical, and economic experiences in general, in addition to the implementation of the measures adopted at the beginning of this year to reduce unnecessary (?expenses) and improvement in the work performance of some government institutions and organs. The government's evaluation of the implementation of last year's plans of the 5-year plan period showed a growth in the production output in fixed price items by 8.2 percent and national productive revenues by 8.3 percent.

O brothers, deputies of the people. Concerning our Yemeni national issue, we resumed our coordination and unity efforts with our brethren in the northern part, under the leadership of Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, in order to create further cooperation and new forms of coordination. The second session of the joint ministerial committee in Aden was an extension of the previous meetings of the Supreme Yemeni Council and is one of the fruitful results of our joint unity efforts. There are new dimensions for taking further steps to reunify our homeland through peaceful means and on democratic bases. The next meeting of the third session of the Supreme Yemeni Council will have a special significance in the course of our unity work and will present new unity steps to our great Yemeni people and their legitimate national dream.

In foreign policy, our country totally supports the Soviet proposals for resolving the problems of the Middle East and regards them as logical and modern [words indistinct] resolve this issue. Our country also supports the peaceful initiatives which were made by the Soviet Union and other Warsaw Pact countries which are designed to reduce international tension, firmly establish a good basis for international peace, settle differences through peaceful means, and establish just international relations of mutual respect based on the principle of peaceful living among countries of various social systems.

YAR

DFLP's Hawatimah Meets President, Makes Statement

GF241900 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, YAR president, commander in chief of the Armed Forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress, has received in his office Brother Nayif Hawatimah, the secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP]. During the audience, they discussed recent developments in the Palestinian arena and current Arab developments, in addition to the struggle relations between the Yemeni and the Palestinian revolutions. The brother president affirmed the position adopted by the YAR in supporting the Palestinian revolution and stressed its strong interest to reinforce its unity under the PLO leadership, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Brother Nayif Hawatimah lauded the great role played by Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih in preserving the unity of the PLO and

attaining Arab solidarity to confront imperialist plots and Zionist expansionist ambitions. He highly praised the principled and steadfast positions adopted by the YAR supporting the Palestinian revolution. He also praised the YAR position reinforcing the struggle of the Arab Palestinian people in order to ensure the success of their revolution and the liberation of their usurped territories. Hawatimah also praised the positions of both Yemeni states toward the Palestinian issue.

He said at the press conference — which he held this morning and which was attended by media correspondents — that the two parts of Yemen stood honorably alongside the Palestinian people and alongside their just cause. They deliberately adopted this position following the mingling of Yemeni blood with Palestinian blood in the arenas of struggle and dignity. He stressed that Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih has exerted huge efforts and adopted a firm position through which he accentuated the unity of the PLO and exerted great efforts either through dialogue with Palestinian factions or with Arab capitals.

Brother Nayif Hawatimah praised the cooperation existing between the two parts of Yemen toward the Palestinian revolution — where this coordination gave birth to the Aden-Algiers agreement. The Algerian Government also participated in making this agreement successful. Brother Hawatimah said that the Palestinian efforts and the efforts of the honest strugglers in our homeland are being directed toward unity in the Palestinian revolution, including all factions and powers. He pointed out that the 17th session of the PNC will convene shortly. At this meeting all efforts will be undertaken to preserve PLO unity and its legitimate institutions. He said: The Palestinian revolution is currently experiencing — as it has for 26 months — very hard times because conditions were created by the enemy to jeopardize and trigger further disintegration of the Palestinian entity. All this necessitates the immediate convocation of the PNC which will ratify the Aden-Algiers agreement so that there will be a comprehensive, democratic, and reform program in the framework of the PLO. The meeting will ensure that PLO decisionmaking remains independent and avoids pressures or hegemony so that the revolution will continue to exist and escalate its struggle to restore Palestinian rights.

Answering media questions, Brother Hawatimah reviewed all the conditions experienced up to the invasion of Lebanon and the siege of the PLO in Beirut. He confirmed that these conditions gave the struggling Palestinian fighter the power and capability to demonstrate a challenge and to be steadfast. In this context, he lauded the heroic steadfastness of the Lebanese national powers and the Palestinian resistance in south Lebanon where their audacious fighting operations have forced foreign forces to leave Lebanon. Moreover, through their persistent and continuous struggle they will be able to get the usurping Zionist enemy out of the Lebanese territories.

Foreign Minister Returns From Iraq

GF241924 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Dr Ahmad al-Asbahi, foreign minister and secretary of the Standing Committee, returned to Sanaa from Baghdad after delivering a message from Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress, to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

Deputy Prime Minister Returns From Libya, Algeria

GF241922 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Brother Mujahid Abu Shawarib, deputy prime minister for internal affairs and member of the Standing Committee, returned to Sanaa today after visiting the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria. During his visits he delivered messages from Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress, to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Libyan revolution, and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid on bilateral relations and Arab and international issues of mutual concern.

In a statement to Saba' News Agency upon his return, Brother Abu Shawarib said that he is carrying two replies to the brother leader from Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Chadli Bendjedid. He pointed out that the talks held during his visit to Tripoli and Algiers were successful and fruitful in a way which serves Arab solidarity.

Naval, Air Force Units Hold Joint Maneuvers

GF250810 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Units from our Navy and Air Force held a joint exercise this morning attended by Lieutenant Colonel 'Ali al-Falah, deputy chief of staff for military affairs and member of the Standing Committee, and by a number of Armed Forces and security forces officers. This comes within the context of the command and joint staff's efforts to improve the training level and qualifications of the personnel of our Armed Forces and security forces. The exercise comprised military maneuvers, combat missions by frogmen, airborne operations, and emergency landing of aircraft.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Interviews President Mubarak

NC240840 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0650 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 24 Oct (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has called on the Palestinians to study current initiatives in the Middle East arena and afterward submit their practical initiative for solving the Palestinian problem. He said: "I don't ask the Palestinians to make any concessions, but I do ask for an initiative that will help reactivate the issue and find a solution for it."

In an interview with *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*, an Arabic-language newspaper published in London, Mubarak pointed to the importance of Arab solidarity and said that Egypt does not feel sensitive. He said he is prepared to visit any Arab state if this serves the Arab interest.

In his interview, which the Cairo newspapers publish today, President Mubarak stressed that his relations with all the Arab leaders is good, even with the Syrian leaders. He said: "I know President Hafiz al-Asad very well."

President Mubarak explained that Egypt and Jordan are currently coordinating toward one objective — the restoration of the land. He said the mode of activity in the coming stage is currently being studied because any delay in this activity will lead to losing the opportunity which we must exploit after the U.S. elections.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: A short time ago, you began your fourth year in office. How do evaluate the experiment on the local, Arab, and international levels?

Mubarak: In fact, it is not I who assesses the situation, but someone else as a result of personal observation. Such a person watches what happens, then evaluates Egypt's stand on the local, Arab, and international levels.

Briefly, on the local level we are proceeding steadily toward strengthening the Egyptian economy and consolidating democracy and freedom of opinion. I think it is clear that never before in Egypt's history has the press witnessed such freedom as it is witnessing today. Is there a newspaper which has been confiscated for even 1 day? I do not think so. Law is sovereign in Egypt, and hence the expression, "sovereignty of the law."

In the economic sphere we are working to ease the suffering of the masses; hence, the 5-year development plan. Regarding the situation in general, we are following a democratic line as best we can. We can see the scope of the exercise of democracy in the People's Assembly, despite the talk that there was some rigging in the recent elections.

I can affirm to you as a witness, that had any rigging taken place we would have declared it openly. We are always frank aboutsuch matters. Never before has Egypt witnessed such honest elections. Anything said to the contrary is a lie.

There were violations, yes; but they were few and involved all the parties. However, despite this, we are trying to look to the future, not to the past. We are trying to lay down sound bases for the public interest and the private interest. I think you have noticed that there has been progress in Egypt. You can assess the internal situation by asking any citizen in Egypt. You can say that what has been achieved in all sectors over the past 3 years had not been achieved during the previous 20 years.

It is true that we are taking quiet steps without haste. Some say that progress has been slow, but we say to these people that the current phase cannot tolerate hasty or haphazard decisions or steps because this will produce immediate adverse results.

I say that we must adopt steady and well-considered steps so that the results will be good.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Do you think that present policies can be properly described as "Mubarakism"?

Mubarak: I would not use such terms as Mubarakism, Sadatism, or Nasirism. You can call it what you want, but please not Mubarakism. I do not like these labels.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Mr President, regarding regional politics, what is your next step after Jordan? During your recent visit to Amman and your talks with King Husayn, then with Prince Hasan, you mentioned a joint strategy — what are the details of this strategy.

Mubarak: Our goal is clear — to restore the land. Egypt has never dragged its feet about this, even while relations were severed and accusations were made about the Camp David accords. It so happened that some people rejected Camp David, but whoever reads these accords will find that these people are only fussing over the name of the accords. I would say that if these people had supported Egypt during the autonomy talks we would have gotten what we wanted long ago. The Palestinians would have had their plebiscite by now. Why did these people not join us at the MENA house [site of Israeli-Egyptian] talks? It would have been a completely different ballgame. We would have debated over hoisting the Palestinian flag.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Do you want to give us a hint about the broad features of the joint strategy you and King Husayn reached to solve the Palestinian problem — are there any joint steps planned for the near future?

Mubarak: We have good relations with the United States and we are continually in touch. We also have relations with the Soviet Union, but our relations with the United States are particularly strong. Our multifaceted cooperation is of a magnitude that we cannot overlook. Moreover, the United States is a major participant in the peace process. The Soviet Union also has a role to play and we are not ignoring this role.

The presidential elections are now taking place in the United States and we cannot expect too much before they are over. Still, we must move, think matters over, and study the present situation. We must plan our future moves and not waste time or opportunities. There is opportunity for finding a just solution for the Palestinian problem and we must make use of it after the U.S. elections. I talked this over with King Husayn and we are exploring the best way for future action. I think I will meet King Husayn in the near future and we will start contacting the United States and other countries.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Mr President, to tie in with what you said, there has been increased support for the idea of an international conference to solve the Middle East crisis. What do you think of this and what are the chances for this conference's success?

Mubarak: Yes, such an idea exists and I would like to stress that we have no objection to it. We support holding an international conference if this can help solve the problem. Egypt is for solving the problem — it supports any means leading to this end and any solution agreed upon. Egypt is ready to attend such a conference provided all the other parties agree to attend. If they fail to attend, the idea will be robbed of meaning, which is the point. If we want an international conference, we must convince everyone to attend.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: How, Mr President, do you see Jordan's role and the PLO's role in the [Middle East issue] solution? Are you in constant touch with the PLO, and how do you think it is possible to end the present crisis?

Mubarak: Jordan's role is a principle one because the West Bank was legally under their administration. Egypt also has a principle role because it had Gaza under its administration. The Jordanian role is very essential to the Palestinian problem.

As for contacts with the PLO, they have never been interrupted — even while relations were frozen. You must keep moving if you want to solve the problem. Had we done nothing during the previous phase, the [Palestinian] issue would be frozen by now, and possibly dead. It is not, thank God, and we must use every opportunity to keep it alive and to solve it. Unfortunately, there are many divisions and conflicts and I wonder if they are of any help to the Palestinian issue. I am afraid if this goes on it will entail grave repercussions regarding the Palestinian cause and people.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Within a few days you will be undertaking a European tour. Will you discuss a joint initiative for a solution and is there any intention to revive the Egyptian-French initiative?

Mubarak: I will be visiting France and West Germany, and of course I will discuss all the bilateral and Arab issues. The Paris visit will take place within the framework of continuing consultations between myself and the French president, because France too has a big role to play in all issues. Regrettably, there are many problems in the Arab world. I really expected the Arab League to be more active and more dynamic in such critical circumstances. But I have not heard of any Arab League initiative. Why? Do you remember those days in which Mahmud Riyad — may God bless him — assumed the responsibility for the Arab League? He was always active. He used to exert the utmost efforts to solve any problem with a variety of efforts that included statements, initiatives, visits to states, the collection of ideas from here and there. So, I wish the Arab League would do something, even if only to solve the many problems among the Arab states.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Mr President, you have said that the restoration of Egyptian-Arab relations does not commit the Arabs to the Camp David accords. Is there a possibility that President Mubarak will undertake a bold initiative to break down the imaginary barrier, especially since each side is waiting for the other to take the first step?

Mubarak: We have no sensitivity toward this issue at all. I have said this before. I will say now that I was in telephone contact with President Saddam Husayn this morning. I asked him about the situation. He told me: I have read to you a statement saying there is nothing to prevent you from visiting any Arab state. This country is your country. You are welcome any time. Consider yourself always as being in your country.

Therefore, it is possible for me to visit any country.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: What is your opinion of the Arab reactions to Jordan's decision to restore its relations with Egypt? Had you expected a different reaction?

Mubarak: By God, if the thinking is rational and the view to the future is realistic and based on the general interest and the Arab interest, there is no room for violent reactions, except by those who have a personal interest. I think that most of the Arab states are against such reactions — albeit they have not announced it. I know our brothers in the Arab states, and I appreciate their circumstances, but we must express our opinion frankly. Time is passing, and ultimately the Arabs will be the losers and Israel the winner.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Will the friendship and mutual confidence between you and the leaders of the Arab states constitute the winning card in overcoming the barrier of Egyptian-Arab relations?

Mubarak: My relationship with all the Arab leaders is basically good, even with Syria. I know President Hafiz al-Asad well. Perhaps you have noticed that I have not reacted to any word and have said nothing in reply to attacks, even though occasionally there have been information campaigns that contained improper expressions such as treason, and so forth. We say to them that the people in Egypt know the word "treason" is out of place. Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir's regime was patriotic, and Anwar al-Sadat's regime was patriotic. Some people might talk about certain circumstances. In the final analysis, however, any fair person will say that 'Abd al-Nasir's regime had its achievements, and Al-Sadat's regime had its achievements.

Have we nothing else to do in the Arab world but to accuse each other of treason? It is as if there is absolutely no leader in the Arab world who is not a traitor. Is this logical? I say that all the Arab leaders are patriotic. the way things are going, it looks as if we are staging a play in the region for the entire world to watch. This is regrettable. My relationship with all Arab leaders is good, even our neighbors on the west side. I have received more than 12 envoys from them, and each time I agreed to meet and talk, but regrettably to no use. Those who advocate cancelling the Camp David accords should ask themselves: Who will be the winner and who will be the loser in this case?

I say that the only winner will be Israel, who will absolve itself of its only signed commitment toward the Palestinians. Therefore, we must be rational and we must not be taken in by

emotions when someone comes and says to cancel the Camp David accords and fight Israel. I say that war does not solve problems. When we waged the October war, it was for peace, and we began moving toward this objective after it.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Talking about reactions, are contacts still going on between you and Syria?

Mubarak: No contacts have taken place since President Hafiz al-Asad was ill. Praise be to God, he has recovered now. I hope our Syrian brothers will appreciate the situation and avoid abrasive words because they can solve nothing and will entrench hatred. This cannot continue, especially since Egypt and Syria will inevitably meet again. Why then cause wounds? I will never respond to vituperations addressed by the Syrian information media. I say to our Syrian brothers: We have turned over a new leaf, and we must follow this line. Since we are a large state as far as the Arab nation is concerned, the big brother must tolerate the small brother.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Mr President, are Egypt's demands from Israel still valid?

Mubarak: Egypt always respects and honors its word. We mentioned our demands before. They are the withdrawal from southern Lebanon, settlement of the Tabah problem, movement toward a comprehensive solution of the problem, and suspension of settlements in the occupied areas.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Mr President, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher announced several days ago that after the U.S. presidential elections, the United States will announce an initiative to solve the Middle East crisis. What is your information about such initiative?

Mubarak: I have no definite information in this respect, but it would not be surprising if the United States announces a new initiative. We already have the Camp David initiative, which many have attacked, the Fes plan, the Reagan initiative, and the Egyptian-French initiative. I wish the Palestinian brothers would propose a new, rational initiative that would help solve the problem. Without the Palestinians, who are mainly concerned, their problems will not be solved. They must approve a reasonable initiative.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Is it possible to say that Your Excellency is demanding that the Palestinians undertake a reasonable initiative to find a solution to the problem?

Mubarak: I hope so. The Palestinians must act now. They should study the existing initiatives and then formulate their own practical initiative. I do not ask for concessions only; I ask for an initiative that will revive the issue and solve the problem.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Mr President, do you think the situation in the Middle East will change following the victory of either U.S. President Ronald Reagan or Walter Mondale?

Mubarak: As a matter of fact, I wish success for the U.S. President because we cooperate with each other, but this does not mean that I do not wish the same thing for his rival, Mondale. Egypt will deal with the next U.S. President, whether he is Ronald Reagan or Walter Mondale.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Mr President, a few days ago the *WASHINGTON POST* published military reports saying that Israel is preparing for a military confrontation with Egypt. What is your comment on this?

Mubarak: By God, the *WASHINGTON POST* journalists make their own assessments. They sit in the United States reading papers and then emerge with private assessments. We are committed to work for peace. However, if the *WASHINGTON POST*'s analysis is true — which I doubt — then this is another subject which needs other calculations.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: What were the results of U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger's recent visit to Cairo?

Mubarak: The visit had been on the agenda for a time. We discussed military aid and exchanged views on some issues.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Weinberger's visit to Jordan was not on his itinerary. Did he receive Egyptian advice to visit Jordan?

Mubarak: Weinberger can answer this question. We always work to remove differences in a fair way that does not injure Arab or Egyptian dignity.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Mr President, what has happened to efforts to bring about an Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon? Is it true that the United States is preparing an initiative in this direction? What is your view of how this withdrawal could take place?

Mubarak: We can take their words seriously only after the U.S. elections when we will be able to discuss this subject. Israel has notified us that it is ready to withdraw from Lebanon. It has dropped its demand that the Syrian forces should also withdraw from Lebanon. It now demands additional security guarantees. However, I say that we have not discussed any particular details regarding an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: But they backtracked 2 days ago and declared more inflexible and intransigent conditions.

Mubarak: By God, I no longer understand their stands. Peres is a flexible and good person, but I have heard different opinions from Shamir and Sharon. Therefore, we are awaiting the conclusion of the U.S. elections so that we can act and hold further contacts. The U.S. Administration will then have the time to deal with this subject.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Mr President, concerning Lebanon, do you believe the current situation will lead to permanent peace or to the renewal of civil war?

Mubarak: I hope there will be no renewal of civil war. I also hope that all forces will withdraw from Lebanon and that the Lebanese will make a serious effort to solve their problems. This is the only solution for the Lebanese problem and for any other

problem. I hope that there will be no foreign interference in Lebanon. The Lebanese parties are able to sit together and solve their problems. This is the ideal.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Mr President, far from the Middle East crisis there is an African crisis which occupies the Arabs — the Saharan problem. What is your opinion on how to solve this crisis? Moreover, what is your view of the basis for discussing this problem during the next OAU summit conference and will you personally attend the conference?

Mubarak: Concerning the Saharan problem, the OAU summit conference held in Nairobi in 1981 adopted a resolution calling for the right to self-determination. I hope this resolution will be implemented before the next OAU summit conference, which I am eager to attend, as I have been eager to attend all other conferences since I was a vice president. I don't know the reasons why they [not further identified] have not implemented this resolution and I don't know the circumstances surrounding them in general. I have heard that the upcoming African summit conference may be postponed. As to whether or not I will attend, this is a matter I am still studying.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Following the proclamation of union between Morocco and Libya there were reports about an Egyptian-Algerian rapprochement. How far do you expect this rapprochement to go?

Mubarak: I am not talking about the restoration of relations, although we have a strong rapport with Algeria. Our relations with some Arab countries are cool, but not hostile.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Do you think that Chad is heading toward peace after the recent withdrawal agreement?

Mubarak: I doubt it, because Libyan intentions are unclear. Maybe the withdrawal from Chad is only a tactical step meant to last until the OAU summit and after the summit other things — that I do not want to see happen — will take place. This happened before; the summit was held and then came the invasion of Chad.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Mr President, you mentioned that President Saddam Husayn has contacted you. Did he reassure you about the military position after the renewal of Iranian attacks?

Mubarak: I and Saddam Husayn are longtime friends. I have met him many times and my impression is that he is a firm and prudent person. From time to time I contact him by telephone to find out about the Iraqi front. Saddam Husayn is not attacking. He is in self-defense. I do not like this war and I am not taking sides in it. I want both sides to end this war. I just called Saddam Husayn to inquire about the situation and he gave me very reassuring feedback.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Are there any plans to revive the Egyptian initiative to end the Iraq-Iran war?

Mubarak: There are many initiatives, and not only by Egypt, but Iran is not listening. I have lately heard about a Japanese initiative. I hope the brothers in Iran would look into the matter soberly. This war is wreaking havoc everywhere. It is depleting both countries' resources and this will reflect on their peoples. I just hope everyone will take his country's interests into account and agree on a negotiated settlement.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Mr President, allow me to move to Egyptian domestic and national issues. I want to ask you about the new practice of meeting the opposition figures whenever national need arises.

Mubarak: In Egypt we do not have any national quarrels. I have been regularly meeting with opposition leaders ever since I came to office. The opposition is here to stay. I only keep telling it that national issues should be faced nationally and apart from party politics.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Mr President, according to your understanding of democracy and pluralism, how do you see the roles of the ruling party and the opposition parties?

Mubarak: Looking at democratic countries, you can tell the roles of ruling parties and opposition. They all serve the national and public interests. The opposition parties monitor and check the mistakes of the ruling party. Is this what you are asking about?

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: I mean the way of dealing.

Mubarak: I am leaving this to the people. I have no plans to confiscate newspapers. If somebody is slandered by the opposition papers he can take them to court. The Egyptian judiciary is completely free and respectable. We never interfere in judicial affairs and I dare anyone to say we do.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Does this democratic approach mean that you intend to abolish some controversial laws?

Mubarak: Laws are legislated by the People's Assembly, and no one can abolish a law that does not suit him. When we find that there is no longer any need for a certain law, we will abolish it. If a certain group does not like a certain law, this does not justify attacking it. The emergency law has not been used except in dealing with extremism, and all cases are tried by regular courts.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: We have noticed that despite what recently happened in Kafr al-Dawwar [labor unrest], the emergency law was not applied. What is your view?

Mubarak: Kafr al-Dawwar was a minor issue and ended the same day, but the foreign media exaggerated it for unknown reasons.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Mr President, is it possible to know the changes expected to take place in the NDP Political Bureau at the beginning of next month?

Mubarak: I cannot say anything as long as such changes are still under consideration.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: How successful has the 5-year plan been? Are there any other plans to provide concrete solutions to problems such as housing, services, and the budget deficit?

Mubarak: We are eager to implement the 5-year plan, and we are exerting every effort because it concerns the future of the country. I sit for hours thinking what would have happened had we not been following a plan, despite the many problems. Here lies the significance of a studied plan and commitment to implementation for the good of the general public, because the objectives of the plan are to alleviate the suffering of the citizens. Housing, for example, is a very big problem, and there is more than one committee dealing with it. One of these committees is under the chairmanship of the president of 'Ayn Shams University, who was the dean of one of the engineering colleges. He is being assisted by specialists in the housing sphere. The committee's task is to define our capabilities to accomplish what we envisage. The 5-year plan provides for building housing units equal to what has been built over the past 20 years, but the problem will persist, and we are doing our utmost.

Regarding services, we do not view the problem in terms of finding a temporary solution; a solution can be found that will take 10 years to implement. The plan will make it possible to renovate the whole sewerage network. This has actually began in Cairo. We also need more trains. The amount spent on existing railroads in Egypt during recent years equals what had been spent during the 20 years before that. As for telephones, the citizen can now make international calls easily. There are still some problems, but I think they will be solved by next March. As for bridges, we have so far built 18 bridges within 18 months, and we are still building bridges in various areas to facilitate traffic.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Recently, you emphasized the importance of a production-oriented open door policy. What are the guarantees for Arab investments, especially since I have heard that new facilities to encourage investment will be announced shortly?

Mubarak: There is a higher committee chaired by the prime minister. There is stability in Egypt, which is the biggest guarantee. There are several guarantees for investors in various fields. There are several facilities as well.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: But there are some deviations?

Mubarak: If we speak about deviation, I truly say that there are fewer deviations in Egypt than in other states. These rumors aim at making investment in Egypt less attractive.

However, whoever errs is punished, and punishment is a kind of protection for the investor's capital so that he will not go to areas where there is a lot of deviation and thus lose his money. A good investor knows this well.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Mr President, during the Egyptian expatriates conference, you emphasized the need to establish a close relationship between Egypt and its sons abroad. What is the nature of the services the state is offering to its expatriate sons and is there any intention to improve these services?

Mubarak: I believe the one who can explain to you this subject is Albert Barsum Salamah, minister of state for emigration affairs. He can tell you about the many facilities offered to them.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Can you through the pages of *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* address a special word to the millions of Egyptian expatriates?

Mubarak: I salute them and tell them that their country is all right. Each one of them is an ambassador for his country abroad. Their country is all right and needs only their backing.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: A word for the Arabs?

Mubarak: I tell our Arab brothers that we must discard our differences and coordinate and agree for the common interest. Our current division only serves the enemies who harbor evil for the Arabs.

At the conclusion of the interview, President Mubarak expressed the hope to see every citizen in Egypt living a dignified life. He explained that he is doing his utmost to bring about this desired goal. He said: There is another dream. It is for the Arabs to sit like one family. Let us discard our differences, quarrels, and name-calling and become a civilized people. When we quarrel, we can get angry with each other, but without using uncivilized words. The Europeans quarrel among each other, but they do not act like us. It is my wish that we emulate the other peoples of the world, which will guarantee for us a dignified life.

Answering a question by the chief editor of the newspaper *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* on how he faces a crisis, angrily or calmly, the President answered: Firmly but calmly.

The president explained that a career in the Armed Forces, and especially the Air Force, makes a person have very cold nerves and also makes him deal with a problem calmly until he easily solves it.

Heseltine Statement Following Mubarak Meeting

NC241154 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1128 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 24 Oct (MENA) — Following his meeting with President Mubarak today, Michael Heseltine, British secretary of state for defense, said that they held comprehensive and extensive talks on current problems in the Middle East. They also discussed ways of strengthening the relations of cooperation between the two countries.

Answering a question on whether Egypt has asked to buy minesweepers from Britain, Heseltine said he could not comment on this subject, but naturally Britain would be glad to supply them.

On the scope of military cooperation between Egypt and Britain, Heseltine said: It is natural for us to cooperate, such as our cooperation in the recent mine-clearing operations in Egypt's territorial waters and the excellent joint Egyptian-British military exercises which took place last year. In this respect, he affirmed that his country will be very glad to participate in such exercises in the future.

Conference of Nile Valley Organizations Opens

NC231412 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Meetings of the Constituent Conference of the Popular Organizations of the Nile Valley began in Cairo this morning to define their role in promoting the aims of integration. The conference was opened by 'Izz al-Din al-Sayyid, speaker of the Sudanese People's Assembly and chairman of the Conference of Popular Organizations of Integration.

Information Exchanges With Sudan Reviewed

NC231531 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1425 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 23 Oct (MENA) — Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif reviewed aspects of mutual cooperation and comprehensive coordination in various information fields today with visiting Sudanese Minister of Culture and Information 'Ali Shammu.

The two ministers agreed to set up a permanent working team consisting of four senior officials of the two ministries who are to meet periodically to follow up on the execution of the information action strategy during the implementation of the integration charter as approved by the Higher Council. This will enable the quick and efficient flow of programs and information between the two countries in accordance with the steps agreed upon by the two ministers at their meeting today.

The two ministers also agreed to exchange television dispatches, including reports on a variety of topics to be included in the Egyptian people's television programs. Egyptian dispatches to the Sudan will include cultural and scientific seminars or major celebrations on national and pan-Arab occasions.

Regarding the Nile valley radio and the construction of a transmitting station, Safwat al-Sharif outlined during the meeting the steps being implemented to set up the Red Sea network, the programs of which will be able to reach Port Sudan. The two ministers likewise agreed that it will be possible to establish production studios in Sudan or in the integration area to feed this network. It was agreed to request a working team from the Nile valley radio to visit the integration area to study the possibility of establishing a local radio there so that its programs will be consistent with the nature and requirements of the area.

Regarding the coordination of beamed broadcasts, it was agreed that the Sudanese Information Ministry will select the broadcasts to be beamed to Sudanese groups abroad so that appropriate material for those groups can be selected.

The Egyptian and Sudanese information ministers have formed an working engineering team of senior specialists to study the utilization of satellites and ways of establishing communication between the transmitting networks in Egypt and Sudan. The team will also agree on relaying live pan-Arab and national celebrations, major festivities, rallies, and sports from the two countries and to contribute toward the unification of the information and cultural atmosphere of the Nile valley citizens.

Information Minister Al-Sharif Leaves for Athens

NC250745 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0722 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 25 Oct (MENA) — Minister of Information Safwat al-Sharif left Cairo for Athens this morning on a 2-day visit, at the invitation of the Greek Government. During the visit, he will sign an information protocol, the first between Egypt and Greece.

In a pre-departure statement, Al-Sharif said that the protocol, to be signed on Friday evening [26 October], will include cooperation in the sphere of radio and television; the exchange of documentary, cultural, and scientific films; the celebration of national anniversaries; the establishment of various exhibitions; the exchange of visits among journalists; and cooperation and coordination in the area of nonalignment.

He added that he will meet with the Greek foreign minister and other officials to exchange views on bilateral relations and to go over the final draft of the information protocol.

New Rocket Launcher Tests Successfully Completed

NC231510 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1420 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 23 Oct (MENA) — After tests lasting approximately 2 years, Egyptian military factories have succeeded in manufacturing a new Egyptian weapon. It will be exhibited for the first time at the Egyptian pavillion at the Cairo International Exhibition for Defense Equipment to be held at Al-Mazah Airbase from 10 to 14 November.

The new Egyptian weapon, being produced locally without foreign assistance, is an artillery rocket launcher. It is a military vehicle equipped with a number of launchers for tactical artillery rockets. It is versatile and can be easily moved into battlefields. It is considered one of the major direct-fire artillery weapons.

Firing tests of this weapon have been successfully completed. Its range is 20 km. Tests with live ammunition will be made on the day earmarked for firing of Egyptian and foreign weapons before the Arab, African, and friendly delegations which will attend the exhibition.

Air Force Develops MiG-21 Fighter Plane

NC241319 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1252 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 24 Oct (MENA) — The Air Force has succeeded in developing the MiG-21 fighter plane, including its fighting system and all of its navigation systems. The aircraft is capable of carrying certain types of bombs and missiles and could be given a name other than MiG-21.

This development, introduced with the help of Western technology, doubles the aircraft's fighting capabilities,making it highly efficient and on a par with Western-made fighters. The developed MiG-21 plane will be exhibited at the Egyptian Air Forces' pavillion during the Cairo international exhibition of defense equipment, which will demonstrate Egypt's technological ability to repair and develop Eastern equipment.

Court Releases 176 Al-Jihad Organization Members

NC231205 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1045 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 23 Oct (MENA) — At a session held today under Counselor Muhammad Shawqi Mahmud, the Supreme State Security Court decided to indefinitely postpone the case of 176 defendants, Al-Jihad organization members, and to release all of them. During the session, the State Security Prosecution, under the supervision of Counselor Raja'i al-'Arabi, State Security Prosecution public attorney, asked the court to indefinitely postpone the case and to release all of the imprisoned defendants.

NPUG Members Implicated in Kafr al-Dawwar Events

NC231930 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1910 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 23 Oct (MENA) — An official judicial source has stated that NPUG members were behind the events in Kafr al-Dawwar. State security intelligence seized leaflets bearing the following headline: Greetings from the People to the Kafr al-Dawwar Uprising.

Fingerprints identical to those of an NPUG member were found on these leaflets by the criminal investigation department.

It is worth noting that the state security prosecutors are still investigating the Communist Party case in Kafr al-Dawwar, in which nine defendants are involved.

Cairo Papers View Second Reagan-Mondale Debate

NC241405 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 23 Oct 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Regarding the second and last television debate between U.S. President Reagan and Democratic presidential candidate Walter Mondale, the newspaper *AL-AKHBAR* says: The two Presidential candidates did not deal with the root of the problems in the area — the issue of the Palestinian people, who have been displaced for 36 years. How can this problem be resolved so that all other problems can be resolved?

The paper draws attention to the fact that when President Reagan touched on the Lebanese problem he said that Israel is not to be blamed for invading Lebanon because the terrorists — meaning PLO forces — were threatening northern Israel. In his reply, Mondale criticized President Reagan's treatment of the Lebanese problem, which led to the loss of American lives. This demonstrates that there are no substantial or basic differences between Reagan and Mondale.

Continuing, *AL-AKHBAR* says that the lack of vision for a reasonable solution in the Middle East will leave the area, described by Reagan as one of the most important regions for the United States and its allies, as a zone to be devoured by disputes, struggles, and dangers as well as by international confrontations.

In conclusion, the newspaper expresses hope that the victor's government will work according to a logical and conciliatory vision and that the vast U.S. resources will be used in a peaceful action to establish a lasting, just, and strong peace. *AL-AKHBAR* also hopes that the U.S. Government will realize that the Middle East area is not merely an area for hostilities, military operations, and terrorism, but an area whose people, foremost being the Palestinian people, are seeking self-determination.

On the same topic and under the headline: "The Middle East Region Is a U.S. Marginal Concern," the newspaper *AL-JUMHURIYAH* says: Generally speaking, who the next U.S. President is, does not greatly concern the Arabs, because the question, as far as they are concerned, is one of U.S. policies and stances on the Middle East and the legitimate right of the Palestinian people to an independent homeland. The one who today follows the electoral campaigns of the two U.S. Presidential candidates — Reagan and Mondale — can easily realize the list of priorities on international issues from the U.S. perspective, and can also easily realize that the Middle East question has almost no place on the list of political priorities being presented by the two candidates to the U.S. voter. This was poignantly evident during the television debate conducted by the two candidates. East-West relations, arms limitations, and domestic economic issues have topped all other issues.

AL-JUMHURIYAH concludes its editorial by saying: The Arabs have one course only — to unify their stands to settle their own questions.

Briefs

Ambassador to Australia — Cairo, 21 Oct (MENA) — The Foreign Ministry has received the Australian Government's approval of Egypt's nomination of Dr Mahmud Samir Ahmad as Egypt's ambassador to Australia. Ambassador Ahmad had occupied the post of assistant foreign minister. He was also Information Ministry under secretary and Egypt's ambassador in Addis Ababa. [Text][*Cairo MENA in Arabic 1755 GMT 21 Oct 84 NC*]

Spokesman: 4 Hostile Maritime Targets Destroyed

JN251212 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1134 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Some we caused the earth to swallow up and some we drowned in the waters. It was not God who injured or oppressed them; they injured and oppressed their own souls. [Koranic verse]

In these glorious days which witness splendid victories for Al-Qadisiyah armies in the central operational sector, and fearless attacks by the valiant air eagles on the heads of the Khomeyniite clique that covets our land, God's will has granted great Iraq another opportunity to assert its overwhelming superiority and to satisfy the struggler and patient Iraq people's thirst for revenge against those who, as a result of their black hatred, refuse to heed the call of peace.

Our brave naval forces this morning discovered a hostile maritime convoy attempting to enter Khor-e Bandar Khomeyni. The brave Navy men fired rockets of justice in the direction of the convoy, immediately destroying four big maritime targets. Our forward observation posts heard the explosions and saw heavy smoke columns rising from the stricken targets. Three of the targets were sunk and the fourth is still ablaze.

Iraq, from its sense of national and pan-Arab responsibility, will continue to hit every ship that enters the exclusion zone in order to prevent the rancorous and evil clique ruling Iran from exploiting its ports and thus continuing the aggression against our people.

Victory is from God.

[Dated] 25 October 1984

Communique No 1,629 on 23-24 Operations

JN241750 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1705 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Communique No 1,629 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 24 October 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The sons of the Iraqi people continue to deal destructive blows to the barbaric and backward remnants, severely stabbing the agonizing Khomeyniite mule and reaffirming that the Iraq of good and peace will remain the only capable force in this historic dispute. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. The aircraft of our Air Force continued their heroic feats in the II Army Corps sector and the southern sector for the 4th day, mowing the rotten heads of the remnants of the Khomeyniite regime, which believed that it had the upper hand and did not carefully calculate the huge power that impregnable Iraq possesses. Our Air Force's missiles pounded enemy troop concentrations and military hardware. It was with overwhelming joy that forward units saw flames and heard explosions coming from the positions of those who insisted on evil and greed, and who had congratulated their treacherous souls for desecrating Iraqi soil. There were 99 combat missions today. All of our aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God.

2. Our forward units continued to pound enemy positions opposite the II Army Corps sector of operations, inflicting heavy losses in life and equipment on the enemy. Confirmed enemy losses counted opposite one of our forward units' positions in the Sayf Sa'd area — in addition to those mentioned in our previous communiques — amount to 354 killed; 1 helicopter shot down; and 1 tank, 5 106 mm guns, 7 vehicles of various types, 2 personnel carriers, 1 heavy-caliber machine gun, and 6 hardware stockpiles destroyed.

3. The valiant knights of our helicopter gunships carried out successful and daring blows against enemy positions and troop concentrations in the II Army Corps sector of operations, inflicting heavy losses in life and equipment on them. All our helicopter gunships returned safely, praise be to God.

4. Using artillery and all types of weapons, our forward units pounded enemy troop concentrations, military hardware, and weapons emplacements opposite their forward positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, killing seven, destroying one vehicle and one enemy observation post, and setting one hardware stockpile of fire.

5. Fierce and effective blows were dealt to enemy positions, troop concentrations, artillery emplacements, and fortifications in the operations sector east of Basra, killing two, setting on fire and destroying three machine gun positions, and setting one hardware stockpile on fire.

6. Escaping the oppression and the tyranny of the ruling regime in Iran, new groups of Iranian civilians sought refuge with our forward units in the northern sector of the battlefield. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 October 1984

Iranian Refugees Depart For FRG 24 Oct

JN241405 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1345 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Oct (INA) — A group of Iranian refugees left Baghdad for the FRG this morning. This was stated by a Foreign Ministry spokesman who added that this group's departure occurred as a result of cooperation among the competent Iraqi authorities, the FRG Embassy, and the International Committee of the Red Cross in Baghdad.

The spokesman stressed that this measure is in harmony with the stands Iraq has declared on more than one occasion. It stems from Iraq's revolutionary and ethical trend, its deep understanding of the Iranian refugees' problem, and its respect for their desire to live a free and secure life, away from the oppression and terrorism of the Khomeyniite regime and its inhumane practices against the Iranian people.

Talks With PLO To Deal With Convening PNC

Preparatory Meetings

JN250734 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 25 Oct 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — *AL-DUSTUR* —Minister of Court 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah yesterday evening met with PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, also known as Abu Mazin. The meeting was attended by Rafiq al-Natshah, Fatah Central Committee member, and Brigadier Ahmad 'Afanah, also known as Abu al-Mu'tasim, deputy chief of staff of the Palestinian revolution forces. The meeting was held to prepare for Jordanian-Palestinian talks which are expected to begin today.

'Arafat Arrives, Makes Statement

JN242141 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Amman today on a visit in order to hold talks with His Majesty King Husayn and high-ranking Jordanian officials.

In a statement to PETRA, 'Arafat said that his talks with His Majesty King Husayn will deal with holding the PNC session in Amman, according to the king's invitation. He said: My visit to Jordan has no special significance, since our relations are distinguished and established on a strong basis. We can leave and return to this home quietly and with assurance, based on the strong ties that link us.

Answering a question about his recent Arab tour, 'Arafat said: I have conducted a long tour, during which I held intensive talks with the brother officials in the fraternal Arab countries. These talks centered on the Palestinian situation, particularly the Zionist occupation's practices inside the occupied territory, the terrorism to which our kinfolk are being subjected, and the attempts to Judaize our holy shrines. This is in addition to what took place in Hebron, the Al-Duhayshah camp, and other Palestinian camps. He noted that what is currently taking place in the occupied territories is part of a terrorist campaign against Palestinian camps.

His talks during his Arab tour also dealt with what is currently taking place in the Palestinian arena, including the expanded meeting that convened in Tunis for consultations with functionaries and representatives of the Palestinian popular organizations. This meeting made a recommendation that is considered a commitment to hold the PNC in Novemebr. The talks also dealt with the escalating Gulf war, and his contacts with the Good Offices Committee and the ICO secretary general for the purpose of halting this war. 'Arafat was received at Amman Airport by Shawkat Mahmud, minister of the occupied territories affairs; Tariq Madi, chief of protocal at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Brigadier 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya, PLO Executive Committee representative; Colonel Na'im al-Khatib, commander of the Palestine Liberation Army in Amman; Najib al-Ahmad, director of the commander in chief's office in Amman; Colonel Abu al-Tayyib, member of the Revolutionary Council; and a number of PNC memebrs.

Al-Jumayyil Confers with CPSU CC's Brutents

NC241509 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] At approximately 1600, President Amin al-Jumayyil and Karen Brutents, deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, discussed the current situation in Lebanon and in the region, particularly the Soviet stand on the issue of the withdrawal [of Israeli and Syrian troops] from Lebanon.

Brutents Comments on Meeting

NC241853 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Official attention was focused today on diplomatic and political affairs. At the diplomatic level, President Amin al-Jumayyil received Karen Brutents [deputy head of the International department of the CPSU Central Committee] at the presidential palace in B'abda at 1600 today. Present at the interview was Soviet charge d'affaires Yuri Suslikov. During the 1-hour meeting, they reviewed the current developments in Lebanon and the region in light of the government's efforts to liberate the Lebanese territory. The Soviet official affirmed that his country supports Lebanon's independence, sovereignty, unity, and territorial integrity. He also expressed the Soviet Communist Party's solidarity with the Lebanese people's struggle for the liberation of the south from Israeli occupation.

Before leaving the presidential palace, Brutents made the following statement:

He said: Our visit with President al-Jumayyil was an opportunity to reaffirm that the Soviet Union supports Lebanon's independence, sovereignty, unity, and Lebanese territorial integrity. We believe it is in the interest of the Lebanese, and the Arab peoples in general, that Lebanon, as an independent and sovereign state, recover all its territory in the south. Establishing peace and finding a solution in the Middle East will also be in the interest of all mankind.

He added: On this occasion, while addressing Lebanese listeners and viewers, we would like to affirm that this would be in the interest of the Soviet Union and is compatible with Soviet policy.

He said: Our meeting with his excellency the president was an opportunity to reaffirm what we had stressed during Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko's meeting with the Syrian president: The Soviet Union supports the government of national unity in Lebanon and supports finding solutions to current questions through a national accord.

He added: During our meeting with the president, we expressed the Soviet Communist Party's and people's solidarity with the Lebanese people for the liberation of southern Lebanon from Israeli occupation and also our strong denunciation of Israel's policy and its attempts to dictate conditions in Lebanon. We believe such conditions affect Lebanon's sovereignty, security, and national dignity.

We likewise affirmed that the Soviet Union looks toward developing friendship and cooperation with Lebanon.

He added: As you know, we came to Lebanon to participate in the ceremonies marking the anniversary of the founding of the Lebanese Communist Party.

Brutents was asked what the Soviet Union's stance was on the expected developments with respect to the situation in the south and on the contacts that are underway for security arrangements between Lebanon and Israel by indirect negotiations through the armistice committee.

He answered: First of all, this concerns Lebanon, the Lebanese Government, and the Lebanese people. However, the Soviet Union's stance is briefly as follows: The Israeli forces must withdraw from southern Lebanon. There can be no circumstances that allow the aggressor to gain. Israel is attempting to obtain such gains. There can be no conditions prejudicial to Lebanon's sovereignty and security. With respect to the nature of meetings and contacts, this is a Lebanese concern.

Asked what his answer would be in the event Lebanon requested an expansion of the UN emergency forces' role in the south, Brutents said: We believe that an answer can be given when a proposal is made. However, it is difficult to give an answer to a hypothetical question.

Al-Jumayyil Receives Message From Saudi Monarch

NC250745 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] Informed political sources have revealed that President Amin al-Jumayyil will continue his visits to the Arab countries soon and that his next visit will probably be to Algeria in response to an official invitation, and perhaps to other Arab states, particularly Saudi Arabia.

King Fahd of Saudi Arabia sent a message to President al-Jumayyil yesterday in which he affirmed Saudi Arabia's fraternal and sincere commitment to exert efforts to achieve security and peace for the fraternal Lebanese people. The message emphasizes the Kingdom's continuous eagerness to support the legal authority under President al-Jumayyil.

Further on Al-Jumayyil's Libya, Italy Visits

Cabinet Briefed on Trips

NC241623 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1505 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil today briefed the Cabinet on the results of his short visit to Libya and Rome earlier this week. The Cabinet met at 1030 at the B'abda Palace, only hours after President al-Jumayyil arrived back from his 48-hour visit to Libya, Italy, and the Vatican. The Cabinet meeting was not attended by Ministers Walid Junblatt, Nabih Birri, and Victor Qasir, who are all outside the country.

Following the meeting, which lasted for over 3 hours, Prime Minister Karami declined to comment on the Cabinet's deliberations. Cabinet sources indicated, however, that the president had briefed the Cabinet on the positive results of his visit and the expressions of support for Lebanon. The sources indicated that President al-Jumayyil and Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi had reaffirmed the unity of Arab ranks and the necessity of cooperation. President al-Jumayyil briefed the Libyan leader on the effective, positive role of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in support of Lebanon, giving details of reforms on which agreement had been reached.

The president noted that there were certain differences which were being dealt with by the Cabinet, but stressed that process would continue because there was a common desire to pursue reforms. [sentence as heard] President al-Jumayyil said that his visit to Italy came within the context of friendly bilateral relations. There have been no high-level contacts between the two countries since Italy withdrew its contingent from the Multinational Force. President al-Jumayyil thanked the Italian leaders for their concern for Lebanon and for the services rendered by the Italian troops, especially those who were deployed around the refugee camps and in the southern suburb. Talks also centered on ways of strengthening ties and the possible participation of Italy in any future international force.

The president informed the Cabinet that his hour-long meeting with Pope John Paul left him with the distinct impression that the head of the Roman Catholic Church was deeply aware of and concerned about the political and human problems of Lebanon. The pope indicated that support for the Lebanese Government would continue, especially in its efforts to secure the liberation of Lebanese territory and in avoiding any future tragedy. President al-Jumayyil and Pope John Paul reviewed conditions in Lebanon and the region in view of the contacts that the Vatican maintains in the region and in the international field. They agreed on the need for security arrangements which would pave the way for the liberation of the south.

On his way back, the president received an official invitation to visit Algeria, but in view of the Cabinet meeting and other obligations, he decided to continue to Beirut, with a visit to Algeria to be arranged at a later date.

The Cabinet then went on to approve a number of bills related to a wide-range of administrative affairs. [Words indistinct] on the government agenda included a decision to raise the case of the protection of the Tyre ruins at the United Nations. Other decisions involved allocations for new turbines at existing power stations, the granting of aid to a number of cultural projects, the acceptance of gifts and grants from foreign countries, and the delegation of Lebanese ambassadors to represent Lebanon at international meetings.

Al-Qadhdhafi Asked for Aid

JN241957 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam was visiting Libya on the same day that Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil returned from Libya to Beirut with a short stopover in Rome. Is there any connection between the two visits, or was the timing a pure coincidence? It seems that coincidence is not a factor here, in light of what has been leaked about President al-Jumayyil's visit to Tripoli. These topics are of equal interest to Beirut and Damascus.

A very well informed Lebanese source, who declined to be identified, has stated that President al-Jumayyil had reaffirmed to the Libyan leaders Lebanon's stand on the resumption of relations betwen Amman and Cairo, a stand which remains committed to the 1978 Baghdad Summit resolutions on boycotting Egypt. These resolutions were taken as a result of Al-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem.

It goes without saying that President al-Jumayyil's reaffirmation of this stand definitely defines Lebanon's course with respect to the Amman-Cairo axis, which is expected to include other Arab capitals, particularly Baghdad. This axis greatly worries Tripoli and Damascus.

The second issue which the Syrian capital welcomes after it received the Lebanese file is the Libyan and Arab assistance for Lebanon. The well-informed Lebanese source said today that President al-Jumayyil held talks with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi on the question of resuming the payment of Arab funds which were alloted to Lebanon by the 1979 Tunis summit. Of this assistance, Lebanon has received only $59.4 million, which Iraq gave in 1980. It should be noted that Libya has not given any of the sums it was supposed to give.

With respect to Lebanon's domestic political arena, President al-Jumayyil asked Col al-Qadhdhafi to help the Lebanese regime to convince Libya's friends in the Lebanese arena, particularly that the Lebanese regime will carry out the required political reforms, but also that there is a need to impose the state's sovereignty on all the illegal ports and that President al-Jumayyil will take care of the illegal ports in eastern Beirut. If this takes place, the Lebanese treasury will receive funds that will help it to deal with the economic crisis and will help it to settle any loans that Libya or any other country may grant to the Lebanese state.

This is what the informed source in Beirut has stated about the visit of President al-Jumayyil, who informed the Lebanese Cabinet today about his talks with Col al-Qadhdhafi. A government source in Beirut said a short while ago that President al-Jumayyil stressed to Col al-Qadhdhafi the need to preserve the unity of Arab ranks, and informed him about the beginning of the implementation of political reforms in Lebanon.

Another authoritative Lebanese source revealed a short while ago that Algerian leaders have invited President al-Jumayyil to visit Algeria immediately. However, in view of his commitment to preside over the Lebanese Cabinet meeting today, he has postponed the visit to the future.

It is to be noted that the Algerian invitation takes place during a critical stage in Libyan-Algerian relations. It is also to be noted that Algeria and Libya have not paid the sums they were supposed to pay to Lebanon as a result of the Tunis summit.

Inquired About Imam as-Sadr

NC241840 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Excerpt] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that President al-Jumayyil informed the Cabinet that, during his visit to Libya, he asked for a clarification on the circumstances of the disappearance of Imam Musa as-Sadr [chairman of the Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council who disappeared in August 1978].

Karami on Libya Visit

GF241056 Doha QNA in Arabic 0900 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Dubayy, 24 Oct (QNA) — Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami has stressed that the Lebanese Army is fully prepared to perform its main function of preserving security in southern Lebanon together with the UN forces. In a statement published today in the *AL-BAYAN* newspaper, Mr Karami said that the Army is desirous to play its role and execute its duties on all Lebanese soil, the unification of which will unify the people and the homeland.

Answering a question about the objectives of Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's visit to Libya recently, Mr Karami was content to say that all the efforts exerted by the Lebanese Government lead to the channel of salvation on all levels and in all fields in cooperation with the Arab brethern.

In the meantime, the same newspaper quoted official Lebanese sources in Beirut as saying that the Lebanese president's visit to Libya constitutes part of a Lebanese move to obtain what is considered financial claims for Lebanon in accordance with the resolutions of some Arab summits, including the 1977 summit in Tunis, and is also considered part of a mutual Libyan-Lebanese understanding on direct cooperation between them.

Karami Appeals for Help To End Israeli Occupation

NC241638 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1505 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] During the day, Prime Minister Rashid Karami urged all peace-loving countries to help Lebanon secure the withdrawal of Israeli forces and Israeli occupation. In a message on the occasion of United Nations Day, the prime minister paid tribute to the efforts of the UN secretary general, Perez de Cuellar, in support of Lebanon and its right to liberation.

In his message, issued in his capacity as foreign minister, Premier Karami stressed that the role of the international organization hinged on the extent to which its decisions were taken seriously and with [word indistinct]. He stressed the need for the implementation of Security Council decisions on the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and urged the world community to help end the Israeli occupation.

The prime minister thanked the world body for the help it renders to smaller nations.

Companies Warned Against Using Illegal Ports

NC241829 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] The Foreign Ministry sent cables to all the [Lebanese] diplomatic missions and consulates abroad, notifying them of the directive issued by the Transport Directorate of the Ministry of Public Works to close the illegal ports.

Ambassador Khalil Makkawi, acting secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, and Raymond Farhat, acting director general of transport, met today and discussed this directive, the text of which follows:

In accordance with Cabinet Decision Number 1, dated 22 October 1984, providing for the closure of the illegal ports and for the adoption of the administrative, legal, judicial, and security measures that will ensure that imports are restricted to legal ports, and in accordance with the current laws and regulations, especially the law governing maritime trade and the regulations governing the ports, the Transport Directorate of the Ministry of Public Works notifies all the Lebanese and foreign maritime navigation companies; the captains, owners, and representatives of the ships (?dealing) with Lebanon; the maritime transport agents; and all those involved in transport, loading, and unloading operations, that they must only use the legal Lebanese ports in which port, customs, and security authorities are present or else face judicial and administrative action.

Such action will be taken with a view to inflicting the harshest punitive and legal measures on all those who use the illegal ports, to impounding the contravening ship and to withdrawing the administrative licenses given to the maritime agents and all those involved in transport, unloading, and import and export operations at illegal ports.

Karami on Illegal Ports

NC242009 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami tonight chaired a meeting at his residence. The meeting was attended by General Michel 'Awn, Army commander; Shafiq Munayminah, Cabinet secretary general; Major General 'Uthman 'Uthman, director general of the Internal Security Forces; 'Isam Haydar, chairman of the Higher Customs Council; Engineer Maurice Ghazal, investments director general; and Commissioner Hafiz Shahadah, who represented the Directorate General of Public Security. The discussions dealt with the implementation of the Cabinet decision to take over Dock Number 5 at Beirut port and to close the illegal ports.

After the meeting, Prime Minister Karami said:

[Begin recording] [Karami] I called a meeting of the official bodies that are concerned with the implementation of Cabinet decisions. It was called because we are dealing with a concrete plan to put an end to the smuggling operations that greatly harm the Lebanese treasury, especially now that the price of the dollar has risen, or, rather, the price of the Lebanese pound has

slumped. For this reason, it is our primary duty to reach solutions that will secure revenues for the state. Therefore, discussions dealt with practical ways and measures to ensure that illegal ports are closed. The conferees have been charged with creating a practical program to carry out this task that has been assigned to them so that it can be debated and, after agreement is reached, implemented.

[Question indistinct]

[Karami] All these matters must be presented to the Cabinet on Saturday because we are seriously committed to starting a process that will restore the state's full authority and role. [end recording]

Birri Returns From Damascus Talks 24 Oct
NC250705 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] Nabih Birri, minister of state for south Lebanon and reconstruction affairs, returned from Damascus last night following talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and a number of Syrian officials.

In a statement, Minister Birri said he sensed the obvious eagerness of President al-Asad to speed up the implementation of reforms, because this is the approach that will enhance the reconciliation which has begun to manifest itself in the Cabinet and to accomplish these reforms in order to turn attention to liberation. Unity is required in order to liberate our patient land in the south.

Minister Birri said achieving reforms and a comprehensive security plan will make it possible for the Lebanese, the Arabs, and even the world to devote their attention to the problem of the south.

Minister Birri's sources described his visit to Damascus as excellent.

Meeting Held on Ways To Collect Arab Aid
NC241647 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1505 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] An important meeting was held this afternoon at the Bank of Lebanon to discuss ways of collecting aid and grants presented to Lebanon by Arab countries. A total of $1.6 billion was earmarked for Lebanon, but only a small portion has been received. The meeting today was a continuation of the meeting held yesterday at government house, which was chaired by Prime Minister Karami.

The meeting at the Central Bank was attended by Bank of Lebanon Governor Michel Khuri; Cabinet Secretary General Shafiq Munayminah; Finance Director General Khattar Shibli; acting secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, Khalil Makkawi; head of the banks' control commission, Walid Na'jah; and government commissioner to the Bank of Lebanon, Raja Hamadi. The meeting also considered ways of contacting international organizations and securing economic aid to bolster the Lebanese currency.

Islamic Grouping Convenes; Issues Statement
NC241818 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] The Islamic Grouping held an expanded meeting at 1100 today under the chairmanship of his eminence mufti of the republic, Shaykh Hasan Khalid. Attending the meeting were His Eminence Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council; a number of former prime ministers; a number of ministers and deputies; and Tripoli Mufti Shaykh Tahah al-Sabunji.

The conferees released a statement at the end of the meeting in which they emphasized the importance of the meeting with regard to the unity of Islamic and national ranks. They stressed the need for resisting the Israeli occupation and for supporting the resistance. The conferees agreed on the following:

1. To mobilize all forces to ensure the liberation of the land from the Israeli occupation in the south, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya, and to support the all-embracing resistance against the occupation.

2. To beef up the Islamic unity, for it is the sole way to unify and liberate the homeland.

3. To implement the decisions which were made at previous meetings. His Eminence Shaykh Hasan Khalid will determine the time for the implementation of the decisions.

Lebanese Forces Commander Calls for Mobilization
NC241910 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Lebanese Forces Commander Dr Abu Nadir has declared that nobody can make the Christians return to the mountain even if the chance to return was presented on a silver platter. He emphasized that the sons of the mountain will return only by their own will. He called for psychological, social, and military mobilization in preparation for the zero hour, pointing to the need to make an issue of the evacuated town of Al-'Abbadiyah.

During his meeting with the sons of Al-'Abbadiyah in Al-Dubayyah today, he said: We are not war lovers, but our destiny in the east [as heard] is to marry the rifle.

VOL Reports on 'Violent Clashes' in Mountain
NC250725 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] While political efforts were underway and wide-scale diplomatic contacts were taking place, Junblatt gunmen and their allies caused an eruption in the security situation in the mountain last night. Violent clashes took place on the 'Aytat, Suq al-Gharb, Shimlan, and Kayfun lines. The clashes continued

from 2200 yesterday until 0145 today. Rockets and artillery were used in these clashes. The Army forces were compelled to fire flares when they began returning the fire in order to locate the armed positions in 'Aytat, Shimlan, and Kayfun.

Security sources reported this morning that the disengagement forces' positions in [name indistinct], Al-Qammatiyah, 'Ayn Saba, and Kamil Hotel came under mortar, rocket, and 12.7-mm machine gun fire.

Bsaba received intensive sniper fire from the Junblatt gunmen's positions on the Al-Ma'rufiyah hills since 2000 yesterday. During the period of the clashes in the mountain, a series of agreements for a cease-fire were reached, the last at 0055 today, but the Junblatt gunmen's fire at Army positions and the mortar fire at the disengagement forces' positions on [word indistinct]-Al-Qammatiyah junction did not stop until 0145 today.

'Pro-Syrian' Group Threatens Arab Countries

NC241734 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] 'Isam al-Qadi, leader of the pro-Syrian Al-'Sa'iqah organization, has threatened to carry out operations against Arab countries which deport Palestinians who oppose Yasir 'Arafat. The Al-Sa'iqah organization is an anti-'Arafat group.

RFL on Kidnapping of Correspondents in Beirut

NC241213 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Gunmen have kidnapped correspondents working for a foreign news agency on the Beirut airport road. The correspondents, who were in a blue Dodge driven by Muhyi al-Din Habbal, are Nicola Shaftari, Charles 'Asi, and Khazin 'Abbud.

Reporters' Fate Still Unknown

NC250715 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] The fate of the four AP reporters is still unknown despite the intensive contacts which were held with mnay quarters in West Beirut.

In the meantime, Judge Michel Karam was released yesterday. The judge was kidnapped in Tallat al-Khayyat last Saturday.

Resistance Forces Attack Israeli Patrol Near Tyre

NC241418 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] At 1400 today, Lebanese national resistance fighters attacked an Israeli patrol on the Al-Bayyadah road near Tyre, using rockets and machine guns.

The 10-minute clash [as heard] left two enemy soldiers dead and three others wounded. Immediately, Israeli forces brought in fresh troops and cordoned off the area and mounted a wide-scale search operation.

Al-Asad Receives Lebanon's Nabih Birri

JN241238 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Damascus — President Hafiz al-Asad received Nabih Birri, Lebanese minister of state for the south and reconstruction and minister of justice and water resources, at 1330 today. The talks dealt with the situation in the Lebanese arena and efforts to continue the march of reconciliation, security, and liberation.

Libyan Delegation Meets With Ba'th Party Officials

LD241340 Tripoli JANA in English 0945 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Syria, Oct 24 — JAMAHIRIYAH NEW AGENCY — The delegation of the General People's Congress met yesterday with Brother Muta'b Shanan, member of the pro-National Command of the Ba'th Arab Socialist Party of Syria and other officials of the party. The meeting reviewed current developments in the Arab region and the desperate reactionary attempts to revive agreements of Camp David and pushing forward surrender designs.

The meeting also confirmed the need of stepping up popular struggle action to face this path and developing popular frameworks working in this field, especially the Arab People's Congress, for reinforcing its effective role in facing the imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary attacks on the Arab homeland and the attempts of falsification of the stands of the Arab masses towards surrender initiatives led by reactionary group in the area.

The delegation of the General People's Congress conveyed the appreciation of the masses of the basic people's congresses of the firm Syrian stand. Shanan also conveyed the appreciation of the Ba'th Party in Syria and Syrian masses of the firm stands of the Jamahiriyah, side by side with the steadfastness of Syria, in confronting the Zionist enemy.

Damascus Reacts to Rabin Remarks to Jewish Group

JN241254 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Israeli officials speak about U.S. policy as though they are the makers of this policy. Israeli war minister Yitzhaq Rabin yesterday said that the U.S. Administration will reactivate its role on the issue of an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon after the U.S. presidential elections. Rabin claimed that Syria has a desire to negotiate with Israel, through the United States. If the nature of relations between the United States and Israel allows the Israeli rulers to speak in the name of the U.S. Administration, after this administration has implemented the U.S. policy in the Middle East in Israel's interest within the framework of strategic cooperation between them, Rabin's statements on Syria fall within the framework of psychological war the imperialist and Zionist circles are launching against Syria. This war has escalated following President Hafiz al-Asad's successful visit to the USSR, which led to achieving new elements in relations between the two countries — elements that strengthen Syria's defense and economic potentials, and the possibilities of its political action against the Israeli-U.S. plans.

The imperialist-Zionist psychlogical war will not affect Syria. This war will never be able to alter the facts that have made Syria the basic Arab force for confronting the imperialist- Zionist onslaught against the Arab homeland. As is known, Syria has not entered any direct or indirect negotiations with Israel. Moreover, it has never agreed to enter such negotiations. This is a known Syrian stand which need not be repeated. This stand has its own justifications and constituents. Neither the Israeli rulers, nor the U.S. rulers will succeed in dragging Syria to unilateral negotiations, side contacts, or any other form of bargaining.

Regarding Lebanon, the Lebanese affairs are the business of the Lebanese Government. Arranging the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon is also the responsibility of the Lebanese Government. Syria has never claimed the right to speak or negotiate on Lebanon's behalf, or conclude agreements in its name. He who seeks security arrangements with Lebanon must knock on the Lebanese door and search for the suitable framework. The Lebanese side referred to the Israeli-Lebanese armistice agreement more than once. However, Syria has always stressed that it stands at Lebanon's side in its efforts to liberate its land, evacuate the Israeli forces of occupation, and guarantee its independence, freedom, territorial integrity, and the unity of its people.

AL-BA'TH: All Talks With Israel Rejected

JN250836 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0715 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] Damascus, 25 Oct (SANA) — In today's editorial *AL-BA'TH* writes about the psychological warfare campaigns launched against Syria in the wake of the great shock which hit imperialist and Zionist circles after the Syrian-Soviet summit made Syria more confident of its solid front and status. The paper asserts that the new elements added to the strong ties between the two countries increased Syria's defensive and economic capabilities and placed it in a strong position to reply to attempts to surround the cause and to promote liquidatory deals against the national cause and Arab rights.

AL-BA'TH adds: Although we believe that these tendentious campaigns have been exposed, we also believe that attempts to exhaust Syria and obstruct its march will continue. The atmosphere of electioneering in the United States these days may add fuel to these campaigns with the aim of conveying the impression that the White House is capable of shaking national and liberation regimes and undermining their bases.

After pointing out statements by Zionist enemy leaders and promises by some U.S. officials on a future role of Washington in the region after the U.S. election, *AL-BA'TH* asserts that Tel Aviv's rulers are incapable of dragging Syria into extortionist bargains and stands. Syria did not and will not enter, directly or by proxy, any negotiations with Israel. Syria has always reiterated that Lebanese security and its arrangements are a matter for the Lebanese national unity government. The paper says: Seizing so-called direct Syrian interference in Lebanon as a

pretext is aimed at blackmailing Lebanon and pushing it into direct negotiations and a separate deal with the Israeli enemy.

Concluding, *AL-BA'TH* asserts that the Zionist entity's leaders cannot hide the fact that their invasion army is incapable of protecting its own security in the south. This army, which they call the protector of peace in Galilee, needs another army to protect it from the operations of the brave national resistance. The paper says: Syria fears no threat. Syria is stronger than all misleading, distortion, and psychological warfare campaigns of whatever kind. The national and pan-Arab option in the region is an irrefutable fact.

'Specific' Details of Economic Package Deal Reported

TA241824 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Report by economic affairs correspondent Gadi Sukenik — recorded]

[Text] The prime minister intends to implement the anti-inflation plan as of 1 November, for a period of 6 months. The following are the specific main points of the economic package deal which will be discussed at the prime minister's office this evening:

During the first 4 months of the plan, workers will receive only 2/3 of the cost-of-living increment coming to them according to the existing agreements; the erosion of wages will continue; at the same time, during the first 6 weeks the prices of commodities will be completely frozen by law, and fees for services will apparently also be frozen. In the coming 4 and 1/2 months prices will be updated only upon the government's approval, and at a lower rate than that of the Consumer Price Index. The tax brackets will be updated only quarterly, but as of December 1984 or January 1985 wage earners will be exempt from 5 percent of the income tax monthly payments. The devaluation will continue according to the rate of inflation. The government will have no restrictions regarding increasing the prices of basic commodities and imposing new taxes. The rate of interest will be decreased.

These are the principles of the economic plan. Representatives of the Histadrut and employers received an initial briefing yesterday and were supposed to examine the plan so as to present their respective positions in the discussion being held this evening. According to the initial reactions reaching the Finance Ministry, the Histadrut will concentrate on examining two points: to what extent the workers' buying power will decrease in the coming months; and to what extent the rate of unemployment will grow. The manufacturers are especially troubled over the possible effect on exports; they also want to know what compensation will be given in return for a freeze on prices besides the benefit which will be gained from reduced wages.

It should be noted that this program will not eliminate inflation. According to initial estimates, the plan is supposed to reduce the Consumer Price Index down to 5-6 percent per month within the coming 6 months.

Some in the Finance Ministry disagree with the ministers over their decision, and dissatisfaction has been expressed about adopting this formula, called the Zanbar-Gafni [two former Bank of Israel governors] program. Senior Treasury officials expressed grave doubts about this plan because, although it stands a good chance of being adopted, it is not drastic enough. Thus, its chances of curbing inflation are relatively poor.

Extra $500 Million Cut Planned

TA241749 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 24 Oct 84 p 3

[Report by economic correspondent Tzvi Zerahya]

[Text] The Treasury intends to further cut the goverament budget by approximately $500 million. The Finance Ministry wants to reach an overall budget cut of $2 billion, according to the following breakdown: an $800 million budget cut already decided on last month; a $400 million savings from cuts in subsidies; a $300 million savings based on a projected reduction of the level of consumption and rate of inflation; and an additional cut of $500 million.

The additional $500 million cut will be obtained by reducing basic government expenditures, dismissing employees, lowering wages, and reducing research and development budgets. When the proposed program of cuts is approved by the Ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs or the Cabinet, the main proposals for cuts which will be raised are:

A. A dismissal of approximately 10 percent of the civil servants. It is believed that approximately 14,000 workers will be dismissed.

B. Increases in the prices of subsidized commodities, as was done last night.

C. A considerable reduction in social welfare activities. From now on, citizens will have to pay for subsidized services, or services which previously were free.

D. A reduction in the level of health care, so that the citizens will pay more for health services. This in turn will reduce the burden on clinics and hospitals.

E. A reduction in the number of enrichment courses and extracurricular activities in schools, for which the middle- and low-income classes, but not those who are underprivileged, will now have to pay.

F. A freeze on the construction of public buildings. A proposal was made to introduce a shift schedule for schools to avoid the necessity of building new ones.

G. A 25 percent cut in the settlement budget, meaning financing new settlements and maintaining existing ones. The Treasury will recommend that when a settlement is established, a decision should be made on a minimum of inhabitants to live in it.

H. A cut in the budget of the Religious Affairs Ministry, which will be achieved by reducing coalition funds as well as reducing the support for yeshivas and the construction of buildings intended to meet religious needs.

I. A decrease in paving new roads and a freeze on the development projects of the Construction and Housing Ministry.

J. It is not yet clear how the Defense Ministry cuts will be implemented. In light of the conclusion contained in the previous budget cut proposal, the latest proposal will be examined at the beginning of the next fiscal year. It seems that the Defense Ministry will have to shelve various development projects.

K. A reorganization of the oil exploration branch to include a postponement of drilling for a certain period, the adoption of efficiency measures, and the establishment of an order of priorities.

L. Abiding by the rule of not granting subsidies to electricity and fuel prices. These prices will be increased periodically in accordance with the exchange rate.

The Treasury has suggested that the Science and Development Ministry should be abolished and incorporated into the Economics and Planning Ministry, the Industry and Trade Ministry, and the Energy and Infrastructure Ministry. It looks as if this idea will be rejected for political reasons. It is difficult to imagine Moda'i openly standing up against the ministry of Gid'on Pat, his Liberal colleague.

M. An increase in water prices to prevent excessive consumption and waste by the public. The government is currently subsidizing water prices by approximately 300 percent.

N. Apparently a proposal will be raised to reduce the Interior Ministry's budget for local authorities and to exercise considerable control over the expenditures of these authorities.

O. A cut in loans granted by the Tourism Ministry for the construction of hotels. Advertising activity undertaken to promote domestic tourism will be decreased and the exchange rate will be changed, so that Israelis will "think twice" about traveling abroad for vacation.

P. Introducing stricter criteria for granting loans to industrial plants, among other projects.

This is the overall proposal for additional budget cuts. Ministers Moda'i and Ya'aqobi will meet with other ministers on the latest cuts, and it seems that changes in this plan are still to be expected.

Trilateral Talks Begin; Qeysar Blasts Plan

TA250736 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 25 Oct 84 p 1

[Roy Isacowitz and Avi Temkin report]

[Excerpt] Formal negotiations for an economic package deal opened last night with a bitter attack by Histadrut Secretary-General Yisra'el Qeysar on the government's economic-recovery plan. Had it not been for the "honor" of Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and the importance of the issue, the Histadrut delegation would have declined to attend the session, Qeysar said.

The talks at the prime minister's office in Jerusalem between government, Histadrut and manufacturers' representatives went on until late last night and were due to resume this morning.

The Histadrut's implacable opposition to the government's plan appeared to belie the optimism expressed before the session by Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i and Manufacturers Association President Eli Hurvitz that the package deal could be concluded in a short time. The government would like the wage and price freeze, a central component of the package deal, to go into effect on November 1.

Speaking to reporters before the meeting, Qeysar said the government's plan was "neither a package nor a deal." The government had reserved the right to do as it pleased and the manufacturers had gained what they wanted, Qeysar said, adding: "Only the workers have to pay." He added that the price freeze as envisaged by the government was barely a freeze at all.

Peres Discussed Trade Zone With Saudi Investor

TA241443 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 24 Oct 84 p 5

[Ya'aqov Erez report from New York]

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres met with the Saudi Arabia businessman Adnan Khashoggi on the latter's plan to establish a free trade zone in the Middle East. The meeting between the prime minister and the Saudi Arabian businessman, who lives in the United States, took place on the eve of Peres' return to Israel from his U.S. visit. Adnan Kha shoggi came to the Regency Hotel in New York where Peres was staying, and talked with him in his room for a long time.

Peres To Head Body Seeking Funds From World Jewry

TA250531 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] The Cabinet is trying to raise $1 billion above and beyond the existing funds from world Jewry within 1-2 years. This is being done at the initiative of the prime minster. The money that will be raised will be slated for investment in Israeli plants and factories to further economic growth. Our economic affairs correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that the leaders of U.S. Jewry expressed their consent to participate in the new fund during their meeting with Shim'on Peres in the United States. The prime minister has already established a special team to implement the plan. He will head the team, which will also include Ministers Moda'i and Arens. Minister Ya'aqobi will be in charge of the plan. Next week the prime minister will hold a meeting on this matter with 40 world Jewry leaders, while some 200 Jewish leaders will confer in the United States next month on ways to raise the money.

U.S. Economic Aid Talks Set for Next Week

TA250739 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 25 Oct 84 p 2

[Wolf Blitzer report from Washington]

[Text] Washington — The newly formed U.S.-Israel Joint Economic Committee is expected to open its meetings next week, hoping to reach some specific conclusions about improving the Israeli economy by January.

U.S. and Israeli officials involved in preparing for this first session here said the group will attempt to focus on long-term ways to improve Israeli productivity, reform some long-standing structural problems in the Israeli economy and increase exports. They said the Israeli delegation will be led by 'Imanu'el Sharon, Director-General of the Finance Ministry. The U.S. team will be headed by Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs W. Allen Wallis.

The joint committee, formally established during Prime Minister Shim'on Peres's recent summit with President Ronald Reagan at the White House, will also explore in considerable detail Israel's more immediate short-term problems, including any possible strain in meeting Israel's current debt service commitments.

U.S. and Israeli officials here yesterday again said there was no need right now for Israel to seek any deferment on the repayment of its approximately $10 billion debt to the U.S. They noted, however, that such an option was still open to Israel down the road.

U.S. officials, including Secretary of State George Shultz, have not been anxious to see Israel exercise that option because it would merely increase Israel's overall debt burden to the U.S. Any postponed payment would require additional interest payments at the going commercial rates. So the Americans welcomed Peres' statement in the Knesset this week that Israel would continue to make its payments on time.

U.S. and Israeli officials conceded yesterday they were still very much uncertain about the actual impact of the joint committee. "It's all very much new," one U.S. source said. "We'll be experimenting for the time being."

But in effect, the U.S. and Israel have been involved in an extensive and ongoing economic dialogue in recent years aimed at coordinating their strategy in easing Israel's problems. The joint committee, in large measure, has merely institutionalized what already had been occurring on a regular basis.

Israeli officials acknowledge that the Reagan administration — if it is re-elected — will place some economic conditions on increased U.S. economic and military grant assistance to Israel. But they doubt whether any political linkage will be made — at least in the near future.

Hovering over the start of these talks is the early-January deadline when the administration must complete its next budget, including foreign aid levels for Israel and around the world. The most recent bill included $2.6b. [billion] in combined economic and military grants for Israel.

Israel is known to be seeking a minimal $1b. [billion] increase in that level next year — and possibly even more.

The administration is clearly sympathetic to Israel's worsening economic plight, but wants to see some additional structural changes made in the economy before committing itself to any new increase.

Armacost To Deliver Peres Message to Mubarak

Concerns Meeting, Tabah

TA250852 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 25 Oct 84 p 1

[Excerpt] U.S. Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Michael Armacost, who concludes his visit to Israel today, will meet with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak on Saturday and transmit an oral message from the prime minister of Israel which includes, among other things, a repeat of Peres' offer to hold a "tete-a-tete" on the border.

During his visit here, Armacost met with the prime minister and discussed at length everything related to Israel's renewed attempt to bring about a thaw in the relations between Jerusalem and Cairo. In their conversation, Peres pointed out that whereas he is maintaining an "open door" policy regarding the Egyptian charge d'affaires, the Egyptian authorities are ostracizing the Israeli ambassador to Cairo. Despite his numerous efforts, he cannot manage to see the Egyptian president, or even the prime minister or foreign minister of that country.

As our correspondent has learned, the United States is maintaining contacts with Egypt on resuming the talks on the future of the disputed Tabah area, at the request of Peres.

A top U.S. source confirmed that as a consequence of the prime minister's appeal, U.S. representatives have approached Cairo with proposals regarding resuming the Tabah talks.

In response to another question, the source said the United States is not party to the issue, but is merely putting its good offices at the disposal of every interested party.

It should be noted that Israel has requested explanations and clarifications from Cairo on whether it is interested in reinvigorating the Tabah talks as part of an effort to break the stalemate prevailing in bilateral relations since the recall of the Egyptian ambassador from Tel Aviv, or whether the Tabah issue merely serves as a "pretext" for Egypt to pursue the deadlocked relations.

U.S. Embassy: No Tabah Plans

TA241803 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] The spokesman of the U.S. Embassy in Israel this evening denied reports that the United States made any proposals whatsoever during the prime minister's visit to Washington about a solution to the dispute between Israel and Egypt over the Tabah area. In a talk with our political correspondent, the spokesman said the United States hopes that both countries will arrive at a solution of the problem through methods determined for this in existing agreements between them.

U.S. Tabah Plans Rejected

TA241141 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 24 Oct 84 p 2

['Aqiva Eldar report]

[Text] Sources in the Foreign Ministry yesterday rejected the new initiatives on the Tabah issue raised by U.S. officials at meetings they held with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres in Washington. The sources say that it is inconceivable that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak is interested in tightening his relations with Israel in exchange for an Israeli concession on the Tabah issue while he is in the middle of a political initiative in the Arab world. Mubarak intends to visit Iraq in anticipation of resuming diplo-

matic ties with that country, and Jerusalem assesses that a resumption of Saudi Arabian-Egyptian ties is also to be expected.

Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir yesterday met with Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and said that in the upcoming Cabinet session on Tabah and relations with Egypt, he will demand that the U.S. initiative be rejected and that negotiations on this subject be held according to the Camp David accords. Sharir believes that the Tabah issue provides an excuse for Egypt to continue the freeze in its relations with Israel. In his opinion, Egypt is not interested in thawing relations because of their interests in the Arab world.

The *HA'ARETZ* correspondent remarks that ideas to reimplement the clauses of the Camp David accords have recently been raised. These clauses provide the option of referring the Tabah dispute for arbitration or for the decision of a third party. This idea had been rejected by Egypt in the past, and the United States is presently reviewing its stand.

Inner Cabinet Discusses Lebanon Policy
TA250547 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] The Inner Cabinet, comprised of 10 ministers headed by Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, meets today to discuss Lebanese affairs and a timetable for a Lebanese withdrawal. Here is a report on the subject from our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer in the studio:

There will probably be no surprises at this morning's Inner Cabinet session. Apparently the ministers will not be presented with a new plan for a Lebanon redeployment, for the simple reason that there is no need for one: These plans were recently debated by the Inner Cabinet, and the whole issue was raised again following the statements made by the prime minister in the United States to the effect that the Cabinet will discuss an IDF withdrawal from Lebanon within 3-4 weeks.

Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin may propose this morning that his colleagues reapprove an earlier decision to pursue the process, the gist of which calls for U.S. mediation between Israel and Syria for the attainment of security arrangements for southern Lebanon, while obtaining a political understanding with the Syrians and a military agreement with Lebanon. This will result in an IDF withdrawal from the area in stages. In other words, reference is to the eight-point plan that was published during U.S. Envoy Richard Murphy's most recent visit to the region.

It should be emphasized that Yitzhaq Rabin's concept differs from that of his predecessors on the Lebanese issue as follows: in recognizing Syria's central role in any arrangement; in the desire to reach an arrangement with Damascus; in assigning a central role to UNIFIL in overseeing and maintaining the security arrangements; and in Israel's readiness to withdraw without the precondition of a Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon.

Minister Rabin does not attribute much significance to the question of who will sponsor the talks between the IDF and the Lebanese Army officers, but this matter will also be debated by the Inner Cabinet this morning. The prevailing opinion among political circles is that Syria will soon request the establishment of real contacts with the United States, in light of the differences of opinion that emerged during Hafiz al-Asad's visit to Moscow. Next week, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy will again visit our region for another round of talks between Jerusalem, Damascus, and Beirut, but substantive U.S. mediation will not begin until after the U.S. presidential elections. Thus, this morning's session is a preliminary meeting in anticipation of next week's Cabinet session.

Rabin Interview on Lebanon, IDF, Other Issues
TA242051 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1940 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin on the weekly "Moqed" program by moderator Nisim Mish'al, political correspondent Yoram Ronen, and military correspondent Moshe Shlonsky — live in the studio]

[Excerpts] [Shlonsky] The secretary of Kibbutz Shamir stood next to the grave of the 600th soldier killed in Lebanon — I assume you saw it on television — and said, and I quote: Peres and Rabin, Rabin and Peres, you promised to pull the IDF out of Lebanon. Why is the IDF not leaving? This is how the secretary of Kibbutz Shamir phrased the question. When, then, are we leaving Lebanon, Mr Defense Minister?

[Rabin] I stand by what I said before the election. I said then that when we assume control of the government, we would work with vigor to achieve a political-military solution — an understanding with Syria, an agreement with the Lebanese Government — in which our main concerns would be security for Galilee and the IDF's departure from Lebanon. Five weeks ago, on the 5th day of my term in office as defense minister, I appealed to the U.S. ambassador in Israel, asking him whether the United States is ready to take an initiative and begin indirect talks with Syria to bring about negotiations between us and the Lebanese Government on a new basis. The purpose of this basis is the achievement of those goals that we were asked at that funeral to achieve under different conditions. We are only seeking security.

[Mish'al] Mr Rabin, pardon me for interrupting you, but when are we leaving Lebanon?

[Rabin] I cannot say. In the election broadcasts I said that this is how we would work; we would pursue security arrangements for UNIFIL and the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] to replace the IDF. Additionally, I said we would work toward a Syrian understanding and an agreement with the Lebanese Government. I said that within 6 to 9 months after that agreement is achieved, the IDF would leave Lebanon. I stand by this today.

[Mish'al] From when will we begin to count?

[Rabin] From the moment we reach an agreement. To my great regret, because of the election in the United States, the U.S. Government has been occupied. There has been a positive meeting, Murphy came to the area...

[Ronen, interrupting] He will come again, soon.

[Rabin] He will come again. As I see it, the initial Syrian reaction is not disappointing. There are still difficulties with the Lebanese prime minister about beginning negotiations between military delegations from Lebanon and Israel regarding the agreement. I believe, first, that there is a chance, and second, that we must exhaust this process. If it cannot be achieved, the alternative solution is a military one and any military solution is terrible.

[Shlonsky] Your program is based on an understanding with the Syrians. Do you now have information that the Syrians agree to the principles of an IDF withdrawal from Lebanon?

[Rabin] In my opinion, if an agreement is achieved on the basis of what I believe should be Israel's approach — a willingness for a withdrawal in two stages to the international border — what will be required of the Syrians is not to move southward of the line held by the IDF and to stop terrorists who are in the territory the Syrians hold in Lebanon from infiltrating southward. We expect nothing more than that. I believe that this can be achieved through an indirect understanding with the Syrians.

[Mish'al] But Murphy has already visited Damascus. What did the Syrians tell him about these Israeli principles?

[Rabin] Look, the situation in Lebanon is more complicated than it is with Syria on the Golan Heights. We achieved an indirect understanding with the Syrians 10 and 1/2 years ago in connection with the signing of the disengagement of forces agreement. The Syrians are keeping that indirect promise very well on the Golan Heights. You cannot end a chapter without ending the complete complex. In my estimation, there is a reasonable chance that the Syrians will agree to these demands.

[Ronen] Mr Rabin, I have two questions for you regarding what you said earlier. First of all, on the matter of UNIFIL, it is no secret that there are differences of opinion in the government concerning UNIFIL auspices for the talks you mentioned between Israeli and Lebanese officers. Do you think that without these auspices it will be impossible to hold the talks?

[Rabin] I want to explain. We want delegations of the IDF and Lebanese Army officers to meet in a framework that will be organized by UNIFIL. UNIFIL will not be the chairman. What interests me is to reach an agreement on security arrangements, in which there will be two main components: the ASL in the south will cover the entire area from which our settlements can be hit by Katyushas and artillery; and north of that, from the sea to the Lebanese-Syrian border, UNIFIL will be a screen against terrorists as well as a political screen with respect to the Syrians. What interests me is to reach an agreement. UNIFIL has a vital role in such an agreement. Without UNIFIL, without the ASL, there is no military solution, even within the framework of a political understanding with the Syrians and the Lebanese for an IDF departure from Lebanon.

[Shlonsky] You mentioned the northern settlements. Can you now promise the northern settlements that no more Katyushas will fall on Qiryat Shemona and the northern kibbutzim within the framework of the security arrangements?

[Rabin] I can promise that the situation that existed before the Lebanon war, before June 1982 — when the PLO and its terrorist organizations ruled southern Lebanon, deployed artillery and Katyushas, and whenever 'Arafat wanted, he was able to fire at the settlements — will not return. We will not permit it to return. I will not guarantee that not one Katyusha will ever be fired at a settlement in the course of years. In the Jordan Rift valley, too, once a year a Katyusha or two are fired. Luckily for us, no settlements have been hit.

[Mish'al] Mr Defense Minister, I would like to clarify several points about what you have said up to now, perhaps the main question. If I can sum up what you are saying, you are actually saying this: You will conduct negotiations; we, the state, will conduct negotiations with the Americans, with the Syrians via U.S. mediation, and you hope that such an understanding will be achieved. This could take several months.

[Rabin] Possibly — 2 months, maybe 3.

[Mish'al] Is there a period of time you are allocating for this?

[Rabin] I will not state it. I will not say it. I think we must exhaust this process while holding on to the current lines...

[Mish'al, interrupting] That is clear. This being so...

[Rabin, interrupting] My assumption is that this bears with it a great chance of success. I cannot today guarantee results with any certainty. I am convinced that without an effort in this direction, we will be faced with much more serious alternatives.

[Mish'al] I meant to ask, if this is so, if I can sum up what has been claimed, we are talking about at least 3 months of negotiations, or 6 to 9 months until we withdraw; that is, at least for the next year we will not withdraw from Lebanon.

[Rabin] I am not saying that. There may be one of two possibilities: either we arrive at an agreement, and the timetable will be accelerated; or we do not reach an agreement. In such a case we must consider what we are doing and the alternatives for achieving both our goals — security for the settlements and residents of the north, and an IDF departure — will then be more difficult.

[Mish'al] Perhaps we can discuss these options. If the Syrians do not agree — and there are no guarantees that the Syrians will agree to arrive at an understanding with Israel — what will happen then?

[Rabin] I will not deal with any other option today. By the way, it is my impression that the problem with Syria will be easier than it will be with the Karami government.

[Mish'al] Let me ask the question in a different way. Will you support a unilateral withdrawal from Lebanon?

[Rabin] I will not enter into a discussion of any option before the possibility that appears to me to be the most reasonable one — the one that provides the north with the security and an IDF departure from Lebanon — is exhausted.

[Ronen] Mr Rabin, recently we have heard from the prime minister several times that he does not want to give the Syrians the feeling that they are the bosses in Lebanon, and in the eventuality that the Syrians do not reach an agreement with us, then we must carry out a unilateral move in Lebanon: the IDF hands over the western sector to the ASL and deploys in the eastern sector. What is bad in that plan, in that unilateral deployment?

[Rabin] First, I think the difference in the approach I have just presented regarding everything done in the past lies in seeing Syria as the key to a comprehensive solution in this matter. I believe the Syrians are interested and the initial examinations carried out by both the Americans and the United Nations are not disappointing. They are not promising but they are not disappointing.

[Ronen] Are they interested in us leaving Lebanon? Perhaps they are interested in our remaining there and continuing to shed blood there.

[Rabin] In my opinion, Syria is interested. I think that our presence now — where we stand at this point, and certainly if the United States comes out with a political initiative in 1985 — will restrict Syria in its position of being a threat to Jordan.

[Ronen] If this is so, then you disagree with the prime minister.

[Rabin] I do not know; I am giving my opinion here.

[Shlonsky] Israel's present security arrangements are based mainly on the ASL. Do you believe the ASL will be ready within the next few months to play the IDF's role in southern Lebanon if there is a withdrawal?

[Rabin] This is where the importance of UNIFIL lies. If UNIFIL isolates the ASL from the forces that are north of the line held by us — that is, the Syrians, the terrorists, the Shi'ites — and the entire role of the ASL is then to deal with those infiltrators who cross through the UNIFIL area and to control southern Lebanon, it will be able to do so. If we leave the ASL alone, without the UNIFIL screen toward the north, the ASL will not be able to cope with that. This is why the maintenance of a buffer to the north, which can be provided as a shield for the ASL by either the IDF or UNIFIL, is important.

[Shlonsky] In the meantime there is an agreement in principle on the issue of UNIFIL, but there is opposition to the ASL from both Lebanon, Syria, and the Shi'ite majority in the south. Do you think this solution is realistic?

[Rabin] I believe these oppositions can be overcome. For me, UNIFIL, the ASL — in the deployment I have described, and the IDF's freedom of action after its return and after the achievement and implementation of the agreement — these are the components that will provide the north with security and allow for the IDF's departure from southern Lebanon.

[Mish'al] Mr Rabin, let us conclude the matter of Lebanon, and perhaps the conclusion required is that we are now dependent on Syria's willingness to allow us to leave Lebanon.

[Rabin] If we want to leave in a framework of a political understanding and security arrangements in which the IDF will have no share? Yes. Otherwise we will have to leave Lebanon, abandoning the northern border.

[Ronen] The IDF has already spent 2 and 1/2 years in Lebanon. Has this protracted stay not harmed the IDF's capability, its readiness for the next war?

[Rabin] When it is a question of the basic readiness to cope with Israel's security-existential problems, I have no doubt that, with all the efforts that have been and are being made, there is a certain amount of damage to the deployment, readiness, training for the next war, and the trend to stop it, to deter it. Among other things, the task of the IDF is to provide security for the settlements, for the residents; naturally, when soldiers are hit, this receives a great deal of attention. Consequently there is no alternative to saying that the IDF presence in Lebanon is not helping toward preparations for the state of Israel's security-existential problems.

Shamir: Israel Cannot Rely on UN To Guard Border

TA241805 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said that Israel cannot rely on a UN force to safeguard its northern border. Our correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that, in a talk with Jewish businessmen from Los Angeles, Shamir said Israel wants to reach an agreement with Syria and Lebanon and formulate arrangements with local forces in southern Lebanon. At the same time, the foreign minister pointed out that it is not inconceivable that the United Nations will have a role to play in the security arrangements.

'Terrorists' Killed; 3 Soldiers Wounded

TA250520 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] The IDF spokesman announces that seven terrorists were killed and three Israeli soldiers wounded in two incidents that took place in Lebanon last night. One occurred in the central sector near the Al-Awwali River. At around midnight, an IDF unit spotted a three-member terrorist squad. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that in the exchange of fire with the squad members, two terrorists were killed while the other hurled two hand grenades, causing slight injuries to two of the soldiers. The terrorist tried to escape. While pursuing him, another soldier slipped and fell, sustaining moderate injuries. The soldiers finally shot and killed the terrorist. The three soldiers were evacuated to a hospital.

In another incident last night in the Jabal al-Baruk area, an IDF unit confronted a terrorist squad at which they fired, killing four of its members. Our forces sustained no casualties in that incident.

Our military correspondent notes that recently the terrorists have stepped up their attempts to penetrate southern Lebanon via the

Al-Awwali River. They have begun transporting weapons on foot. Evidently there is a marked shortage of terrorist weaponry in the area under IDF control.

2 More 'Terrorists' Killed

TA250713 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Searches carried out by an IDF unit this morning in Jabal al-Baruk revealed the bodies of two more terrorists. This was reported by the IDF spokesman. A total of six terrorists were killed in this incident, but our forces sustained no casualties.

Supply of Goods to Southern Lebanon Facilitated

TA241917 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] The preparation of a strip of land for the unloading of goods has been completed at the Batir al-Shuf crossing in southern Lebanon to facilitate the supply of merchandise to the region. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht explains that there is a dire shortage of basic commodities and goods in southern Lebanon as a result of the closure of the coastal road and the absence of economic links between the financial centers in Beirut and the merchants in southern Lebanon. Ten vehicles will now be able to unload simultaneously at Batir al-Shuf, the only crossing point into southern Lebanon, while being subject to meticulous security checks.

West Bank Economists Meet Jewish, Arab Businessmen

Return Empty-Handed

TA250813 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] A group of economists from the territories has returned from the United States basically empty-handed, after having conferred with Jewish and Arab entrepreneurs. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that apart from promises, the group members obtained nothing. One of the delegation members said that it is still too early to talk about real aid, adding that he believed reports on the Jewish-Arab enterprise exaggerate the scope of the actual activity. He denied that the U.S. Administration is supporting the group of entrepreneurs. Our correspondent points out that a survey team will come to Israel in about a month, on behalf of the entrepreneurs.

Entrepreneurs' West Bank Plans

TA250955 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 25 Oct 84 p 2

[Tzvi Bar'el "exclusive" report from the United States]

[Excerpt] Washington — Several members of the Jewish-Arab group believe that the political solution to the problem of the territories would be turning them into a demilitarized zone and putting them under the supervision of a multinational force.

According to sources in the group who refused to be named, the idea is basically acceptable to the U.S. Administration and Jordan may not oppose it as well. Israel's position is still unclear.

According to the proposal, the multinational force will be mainly American, but British and French support contingents will be added and enjoy UN aegis as well. At a certain stage, the Soviet Union could also be incorporated into the peace process, and bring Syria along, too.

The group is also dealing with the implementation of economic projects in the territories in an effort to establish an economic infrastructure that could serve as "a bridge for the political process." Several companies that have no business dealings with Israel for fear of the Arab boycott have expressed interest in the subject. Sources in the group believe that if these companies enter into activity in the West Bank, Israel could benefit from the economic development as well.

Settlement Council Opposes Mayoral Appointments

TA250923 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 25 Oct 84 p 6

[Uri'el Ben-'Ami report]

[Text] The Judaea and Samaria [settlement] council has been applying pressure on the Likud to oppose the appointment of Arab mayors in Judaea and Samaria. The Judaea and Samaria settlement council newsletter *NEQUDA* complains about the prime minister's intention of holding mayoral elections, saying that this will be disastrous and would lead to renewed agitation and violence in Judaea and Samaria.

Judaea and Samaria residents demand that the Cabinet adhere to the policy that has thus far been employed in there, and accuse Ari'el Sharon, Moshe Arens, and the National Religious Party ministers [plural as published] of remaining silent on the matter.

Arabic Broadcast on Syrian-USSR Relations

JN242033 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1435 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, Syrian media have described President Hafiz al-Asad's visit to the Soviet Union as a qualitative step. This is only a small portion of the larger praise of the Syrian-Soviet relations and great achievements. Although these achievements have not yet appeared, they will appear in the near future. In fact, Syrian media do not need such a great effort to prove that future developments [in Syrian-Soviet relations] will differ from the past. Syria is bound to the Soviet Union by a friendship and cooperation treaty. However, this does not mean that this treaty is the Soviet Union's only concern. As a superpower, the Soviet Union has its own interests and considerations. It has interpreted these interests and considerations regarding other Middle East countries such as Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, and Lebanon in order not only to expand its influence, but also to insert itself in any possible Middle East settlement.

Anybody can see that Syria is in a difficult situation. While Syrian media and officials were making threats as a result of the setback Jordan caused them, Iraq further weakened the Syrian position by opening the door between President Saddam Husayn and President Husni Mubarak. As a result, President Mubarak will visit Iraq, after which full diplomatic relations may be resumed between the two countries. If we sum up these developments, we can say that Syria's influence and its Arab position have been reduced by the increasing influence of the Arab countries that are opposed to it and by the expanding Jordanian-Egyptian axis which will become a three-dimensional triangle.

Just as they either would not or could not understand the fact that the new reality in the Middle East has traversed the phase of crystallization, Syrian media also either would not or could not understand the nature of the peace process that has crystallized in the region. [sentence as heard] They are still talking about what they call the Camp David parties, and they are still warning the Arab world against any attempt to support the Camp David accords so that the Arabs can avoid the harmful aspects of them. Although there are three parties to the peace process being attacked by Syrian media, they in fact do not attack the United States and Israel. They attack Egypt. What damages did Egypt sustain as a result of Camp David? Has the restoration of the Sinai and its treasures and installations harmed Egypt? As a peace-Loving country, has Egypt's political position in the world been harmed? Sixteen Arab countries severed their diplomatic, financial, and economic relations, but Egypt managed to find compensation for that loss through its own facilities or through U.S. financial and military aid. Today, Egypt and Jordan have restored relations, and tomorrow Egypt will restore relations with Iraq. There are other countries that will follow the Jordanian and Iraqi Lead. There are also countries that remained at Egypt's side — namely, Sudan, Somalia, and Oman.

Syrian media can praise Al-Asad's visit and ignore the differences not mentioned in the joint Syrian-Soviet statement. At least they should not have exaggerated about their pride in the Middle East's noble lineage and in its relationship with the Soviet Union. With such pride they exposed themselves.

Syria Discovers Oil Near Iraqi Border

JN242159 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Diplomatic sources in Damascus said today that new oil wells were discovered in northeastern Syria earlier this month. These sources also said that oil exploration is currently under way in one of these wells, located near the Iraqi-Syrian border. Oil exploration in two other wells will soon begin. Syrian officials have refused to give details of these new oil wells. Diplomatic sources said that light oil was discovered. This differs from the heavy oil being produced in most Syrian oil wells. These sources have estimated the production capacity of the new wells at 100,000 barrels per day.

It is known that Syria is a member of OAPEC, although it exports a small quantity of oil. SANA said that OAPEC Secretary General 'Ali 'Atiqah met last night with the Syrian oil minister. No details of the talks were given.

Briefs

Burmese Official Visits — Mr (Lin Phain Moung), the director general of the Burmese Communications Ministry, arrived today as the guest of the Telrad Company in connection with the signing by the two countries of a contract for the purchase of public telephone exchanges manufactured by Telrad, worth $7.5 million. The guest arrived along with two other top ministry officials, and is expected to meet with senior Communications Ministry officials and other high-level personalities in the course of his visit. [Summary] [*Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1300 GMT Oct 84 TA*]

New Settlement Inaugurated — The settlement of Pedu'el, affiliated ith the Hapo'el Hamizrahi moshavim movement, was inaugurated in Samaria yesterday. The ceremony was attended by rabbis, representatives of the National Religious Party, members of other settlements in Judaea and Samaria, and inhabitants of neighboring Arab villages. [Summary] [*Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 17 Oct 84 p 1 TA*]

Labor and Social Affairs Appointment — Communications Ministry Director General Tzvi Zilker yesterday was appointed director general of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs by Minister Moshe Qatzav. The appointment is to take effect on November 12. [Excerpt] [*Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 22 Oct 84 p 2 TA*]

Per Capita Private Consumption — Per capita private consumption in the second quarter has risen for the first time in a year. The rise was by 2 percent, compared to drops of 2 to 5 percent in each of the previous quarters. The greatest increase in the second quarter was registered in the purchase of cars: 32 percent, compared to a 42 percent drop in the previous quarter. The purchase of electrical household equipment, including refrigerators, television sets, video machines, and washing machines, grew in the second quarter by 11 percent, following drops of 8 to 20 percent in the earlier quarters. The only drop was registered in the consumption of food, beverages — soft and alcoholic, and tobacco: 1 percent per person, following a 2-percent drop in the past quarter. [Text] [*Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 22 Oct TA*]

Deputy Knesset Speaker Appointment — Knesset Member Haya Grossman of MAPAM will today be appointed deputy Knesset speaker. She will be the fifth member of the Knesset Presidium; she was given this position due to the Alignment's quota. [Excerpt] [*Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 23 Oct 84 TA*]

Frontline States Meeting Planned for Lusaka
MB241742 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1700 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] A meeting of Frontline States will take place in the Zambian capital of Lusaka tonight, according to a report that reached us just a short while ago from Sulemane Khadir, our radio correspondent in Lusaka.

According to him, the meeting will be attended by the heads of state and government of Angola, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Tanzania and Mozambique.

Our correspondent in Lusaka also says that, although there are no indications of an agenda for the meeting, there are strong indications that southern Africa will the main topic, namely the process for attaining peace and stability in Angola and Mozambique.

Last week's talks between Luanda and Washington on the withdrawal of the South African troops from southern Angola will probably be reviewed at this meeting.

The Radio Mozambique correspondent in Lusaka also says that the heads of state and government of the Frontline States will, at this meeting, adopt a common position to be followed at the next OAU summit meeting to be held in November this year in the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa, the headquarters of the organization.

Frontline States Open Summit on Southern Africa
MB250856 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0800 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] The Frontline heads of state and government last night held a closed-door meeting to assess the situation in southern Africa in the light of latest events.

The meeting was chaired by Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere, who began by inviting his counterparts to discuss what he described as the burning issues of the African Continent.

The newspaper *NOTICIAS*, quoting a source at the summit, says that Presidents Samora Machel of Mozambique and Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola spoke about the development of the talks with the South African Government after the signing of the Nkomati Accord and the Lusaka compromise.

NOTICIAS added that the heads of state and government prepared themselves for the next OAU summit, to be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in November.

ALGERIA

Head of State Issues Pardons Decree

LD242009 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] The head of state today signed a decree of pardon. The pardon and rehabilitation measures were granted to several people posthumously, to some under sentence of death for various crimes committed since independence, and to some now in prison or solitary confinement for various crimes committed since independence.

LIBYA

Reportage on Visit of Syrian Vice President

Khaddam Arrives in Tripoli

LD241359 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the Syrian vice president, arrived at noon today in Tripoli. He was received at the airport by Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud.

Khaddam Meets With Jallud

JN242050 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Tripoli — Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam met today with Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the 1 September Revolution Command. The meeting was attended by Dr 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, secretary of the Libyan Foreign Liaison Office. The SANA correspondent learned that during the meeting they discussed all aspects of the situation in the region and the probable developments in this situation. They also discussed the relations between the two countries.

IRNA: Envoy Meets Al-Qadhdhafi, Relays Message

LD241316 Tehran IRNA in English 0810 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Tripoli, Oct. 24, IRNA — Iran's ambassador to Libya, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khonsari Tuesday night met Libyan leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and conveyed to him President Khamene'i's oral message. Warmly welcoming the Iranian ambassador, Col al-Qadhdhafi reiterated his interest and that of the brethren Libyan people in the Islamic revolution of Iran under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni. The Libyan leader noted that to support the Islamic Republic of Iran was a duty for the Libyans.

Appreciating Libya's decisive support for the Islamic Republic, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khonsari outlined Iran's legitimate stance and emphasised on the further expansion of mutual ties as well as strengthening of the front to fight against international imperialism led by the U.S.

Goukouni Speech in Fada, Chad Reported

LD242138 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Fada, Chad, 24 Oct (JANA) — Mr Goukouni Oueddei, president of the Transitional Government of National Union [GUNT], recently paid a visit to the Fada region, accompanied by the Chadian Revolutionary Council. He delivered an important speech in which he dealt with the internal situation in Chad.

He emphasized that legitimacy is represented by the GUNT, and that Habre is nothing but a rebel backed by France. In his speech, Goukouni Oueddei lauded the firm position of the Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, stressing that the Jamahiriyah has no greedy ambitions in Chad and that its position stems from a revolutionary platform and the strong ties linking the two fraternal peoples.

He underlined also that, while offering sacrifices so that the Chadian people may recover their freedom and so that security and stability can be established in Chad, Libya realizes that the Chadians stood on the side of their Libyan brothers during the Italian invasion.

President Goukouni Oueddei recalled that the Libyan forces had withdrawn as soon as the Chadians asked them to, and by doing so, proved that they had come just to rescue the Chadian people and not to achieve any greedy ambitions or spoils as was being repeated by hireling colonialist and imperialist outlets.

In his important speech, President Goukouni Oueddei also praised the brother leader of the revolution and his courageous positions, stressing that Al-Qadhdhafi's Third World theory, which leans on religion and offers solutions to all political, economic, and social problems, is appropriate for the Chadian people.

MAURITANIA

Algerian Interior Minister Arrives for Visit

LD250310 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Excerpts] M'Hamed Hadj Yala, member of the FLN Politburo and the Algerian interior minister, arrived this evening in Nouakchott on a visit to our country.

At the airport VIP hall, Mr Yala made the following statement:

[Begin recording] I would like to express pleasure to my brothers at this visit. The visit falls within the framework of the exchange of officials' visits between the two countries. I am carrying a message from Brother Chadli Bendjedid to Brother President Haydala. We all know the (?excellent) relations between President Chadli Bendjedid and President Haydala and also between Algeria and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

The message is concerning the situation in the area and also our strong bilateral cooperation. [end recording]

TUNISIA

Jordanian Foreign Minister Sends Message to Essebsi

JN241628 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Tunis — Jordanian Ambassador in Tunis Nabih al-Nimr today conveyed a message to Tunisian Minister of Foreign Affairs Beji Caid Essebsi from Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri. PETRA has learned that the message contained a comprehensive evaluation of the current Arab situation and an explanation of Jordan's views on it. The message is also aimed at achieving further understanding and coordination between the Arab countries regarding recent developments in the Middle East and the Arab arena.

SOMALIA

Siad Barre Receives Revolution Anniversary Cables

EA241329 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1850 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] The Somali Democratic Republic president, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre today received congratulatory messages commemorating the 15th anniversary of the 21 October Revolution from various world leaders. Challe Siad received messages from the presidents of the United States, the PRC, Italy, the FRG, Iraq, Algeria, and Nigeria. The president also received similar messages from the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and the chairman of the GDR State Council. All the leaders wished Challe Siad health, progress, and prosperity for the Somali people.

Radio Halgan: DFSS Chairman Urges Unity

EA241313 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] The Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia, DFSS, Democratic Republic chairman, Colonel 'Abdullahi Yusuf Ahmad, in a message to all Somali people via Radio Halgan on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the usurpation of power by General Barre in Somalia, has called on all the Somali people, spearheaded by the opposition, to take stringent measures to topple the General Barre regime in Mogadishu. The chairman strongly attacked the evil policies based on terrorism used against the Somali people by that regime.

On the unity of the Somali opposition, Col 'Abdullahi Yusuf urged all groups opposed to the Barre regime to pool their strength to rid the country of the dictatorship that has been using oppressive policies to rule for the past 15 years.

Col 'Abdullahi Yusuf Ahmad called on world's peace-loving organizations and those who support human rights to support the Somali peoples' struggle to regain their dignity and sovereignty. He strongly attacked countries, organizations, and all bodies that support the Mogadishu regime in perpetrating its oppressive and stifling measures. The BBC's Somali section was attacked for having become a tool used by Siad Barre to disseminate reports far from the truth about Somalia.

CHAD

ATP Editorial Accusses Opposition of 'Bad Faith'

AB241730 Paris AFP in French 1526 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Ndjamena, 24 Oct (AFP) — The official CHADIAN PRESS AGENCY, ATP, today carried a violent diatribe against "certain individuals" accused of "bad faith" and of engaging in a "criminal policy of subterfuge and systematic sabotage" at the Brazzaville talks on a possible reconciliation in Chad.

The ATP editorial, which does not name these "individuals," but which "calls the opposition groups to order," is its first such scathing attack since last Sunday, when the representatives of Goukouni Oueddei's GUNT [Transitional National Union Government] first refused to take part in the Brazzaville meeting before they later decided to take part in the meeting on Monday. Since then, ATP has limited itself to carrying reports from the Congolese capital on the deliberations at the meeting.

The agency today writes notably that "since 20 October, a masquerade has been going on, coupled with contradictory viewpoints, injurious language that does not fit in with the spirit of the Brazzaville meeting, and, above all, a deliberate determination to torpedo the meeting."

ATP also recalls the statements made in Brazzaville by the leader of the Chadian Government delegation, Foreign Minister Goura Lassou, who, according to the agency, stigmatized "the retrograde attitude of the Tripoli group." In conclusion, the agency writes: "No conscientious Chadian would want to relive the horrors of the period of factions marked by underhanded dealings."

Bardai Condemns Ndjamena's 'Extremist' Attitude

AB242230 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The deliberations of the preparatory conference on national reconciliation and peace in Chad, the opening session of which was marked by Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso's resounding and now historic speech, are continuing in Brazzaville.

As a matter of fact, after the delegation of the Transitional National Union Government, [GUNT] led by Comrade Adoum Yacoub, secretary of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, received the necessary assurances from the Congolese authorities, it took its seat and is now taking an active part in the debates. But the Ndjamena delegation's extremist, antidemocratic attitude, which is completely at odds with the spirit of the Congolese head of state's speech, might jeopardize the deliberations.

After realizing that all the participants in the meeting hall had sided with the GUNT, the Ndjamena puppet delegates took refuge in an attitude of higher bidder. In this connection, the Ndjamena group, which can no longer count on the support of the various interested parties — contrary to its expectations — has reverted to its traditional demands, namely that it is holding negotiations as the legal government with the opposition groups. After receiving fresh instructions from his master in Ndjamena, Goura Lassou, the traitor, has dared to state that all negotiations must be held on the basis of the Ndjamena reactionary order, that is on the basis of the structures of the state and the institutions.

Spurred on by its non-African masters, notably the Untied States, the Ndjamena clique is playing for time and abusing the patience of its partners in the talks while cherishing dangerous illusions when it makes irresponsible — to say the least — and arrogant proposals. The puppet delegation from Ndjamena is trying to win over all national political forces as it cannot merely bring them under control. In view of the desperate and dilly-dallying maneuvers of the Ndjamena representatives, what response will they give to the proposal made by a participant group calling for the appointment of a transitional president and for the reorganization of the Chadian Army?

As one can see, the Ndjamena clique, which is despairing, thinks it can extend the discussions on the issue of legality and legitimacy. But it will always run up against the GUNT delegation, which will promptly respond to the abusive language used by the opposition. Comrade Yacoub has emphasized that only the GUNT is legal and legitimate.

Meanwhile, the Ndjamena group has stated that it recognizes no auspices other than the Congolese, in a reference to the OAU. This reference is all the more stupid as one knows that Congo, as a founding member of our continental organization, has been solemnly and properly mandated by the OAU and its chairman to host the present meeting on national reconciliation. It is precisely in an effort to conceal its failure in view of the assurances secured by the GUNT that the Ndjamena delegation has been obliged to resort to demagogy as a face-saving move.

In principle, the unspeakable behavior of the delegates of imperialism would prompt all democratic forces at the meeting to overcome their differences — of minor importance — to close ranks and (?impose their views) on the minority anti-national group, which is losing ground. In conforming to the GUNT views, according to which there are only two camps, that of revolution and that of reaction, the forces of peace and progress present in Brazzaville will have the best strategy in the face of imperialism and its local agents. May the GUNT proposal be followed by all in the supreme interest of the participants and of the martyred Chadian people.

Bardai Claims Over 100 FAN Soldiers Defected to GUNT

AB242030 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Excerpts] On the military front, just as the Brazzaville preliminary meeting on Chad started, the Ndjamena group staged a politico-military mini-scenario at Bongor. Having taken hostage several hundred farmers of the Mayo-Kebbi region who were

running away from the horrors of the civil war toward Cameroon, the puppet horde later presented them to the public as Cocotiers Commandos.

The Bongor scenario is aimed at diverting the attention of the national and international community from the desertion of hundreds of soldiers from the ranks of the puppet forces. As a matter of fact, we have learned that over 100 FAN fighters have managed to get to the liberated zones with arms and ammunition in order to take part in the liberation struggle.

CONGO

Ndjamena-GUNT 'Deadlocked' at Reconciliation Talks

AB241545 Paris AFP in French 1410 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Brazzaville, 24 Oct (AFP) — Members of the Ndjamena government and Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] delegations told AFP on Wednesday that the preparatory meeting for the conference on Chadian reconciliation being held in Brazzaville is now deadlocked.

Adoum Yacoub, GUNT secretary of state for foreign relations, called on the Ndjamena authorities to "openly renounce any claim of legality [words indistinct] whereas representatives of Hissein Habre's regime clearly reasserted on Tuesday that it is impossible "under any pretext whatsoever," to question the "gains" of the Ndjamena government since its inception on 7 June 1982. Chadian Foreign Minister Gouara Lassou said in a speech that "the authority of the state and of the administration, in the noble sense of the term" have been restored in Chad. "The structure and mission of the Armed Forces have been reorganized and the country's economic structures have become credible," he added.

"All this applies to the whole of the national territory, of course, except that part of the country that is occupied by the Libyan invasionary forces," the Chadian foreign minister continued. Gouara Lassou recalled "once and for all and unambiguously" that the Brazzaville conference, which has been place "under the patronage" of Congo, "is being held between the government of the third republic of Chad and the various opposition groups."

In view of this, observers note, a true dialogue among the deaf is prevailing at the Brazzaville meeting. Neither the GUNT, which is politically and militarily backed by Libya, nor the Ndjamena government are willing to bear responsibility for "wrecking" the meeting. None of them want to "slam the door" and both of them have expressed the desire to remain in the Congolese capital "as long as there is the need."

"We have not lost the hope of making Ndjamena see reason," Mr Yacoub stated. "A conflict that has been going on for about 20 years cannot be settled in a few days. This is all normal," he added. But neither side is prepared to envisage — at least at this point — the "slighest concession" in order to "break the deadlock" in the talks.

On Tuesday afternoon, the Chadian delegations, which neither belong to the GUNT nor the Ndjamena government, urged the two sides to be realistic and "to listen to the voice of the Chadian people." "We are expecting concrete answers from them to the questions we have asked them in order to find a solution to the conflict," several leaders of these small factions disclosed to AFP. These delegations specifically suggested the creation, as soon as possible, of commissions charged with the responsibility of carrying out a profound analysis on the problems dividing Chad. According to the groups, the priority issues to be discussed include "the inadequacy of the present structures of the Chadian state, the absence of democracy, the lack of a national army, the international community's role in the reconstruction of Chad and its relationship with neighboring states, including Libya."

But for the representatives of the Ndjamena government, "all this is very abstract and there will be nothing to negotiate as long as the framework of the Brazzaville conference is not strictly defined."

"The opposition group to the Ndjamena government must accept its position as such, either collectively or individually. That is not our problem. We will not hold discussions with them unless they decide to admit the reality of Hissein Habre's power," a member of the Ndjamena delegation declared.

A large number of factions regret the fact that the GUNT and the authorities in Ndjamena have refused to hear of democratic elections in Chad." "The Chadian people must have a say," they contend.

But, according to Ndjamena, a "de facto" situation exists in favor of Hissein Habre, "and in its opinion, the GUNT," which only exists in name, "cannot contest this reality much longer."

Congo Delegation Goes to Ndjamena to 'Unblock' Talks

AB241650 Paris AFP in French 1547 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Brazzaville, 24 Oct (AFP) — A Congolese delegation led by Antoine Nginga Oba, the minister of foreign affairs, left for Ndjamena in an effort to unblock the preparatory meeting on Chadian reconciliation, which has been at an impasse for the past 24 hours, it was disclosed by a reliable source. The date of the Congolese minister's departure was not specified.

The Tuesday afternoon session was prematurely suspended because of the intransigence of the Ndjamena and the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) delegations. The Wednesday morning meeting did not take place, but the deliberations resumed by 1630 (1530 GMT) the same day.

GHANA

PANA Agreement Ratified; Becomes 34th Member

AB241450 Dakar Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Excerpt] PANA has widened its ranks. Ghana this morning ratified the PANA agreement, thus becoming its 34th member. One of the reasons that motivated the Accra government is to find an alternative to the biased information disseminated by the dominating countries.

This is the view of Ghana's ambassador to Guinea, who came to Dakar for the occasion and signed the agreement with the PANA director general.

GUINEA

AFP Reviews Country's Economic Situation

AB241116 Paris AFP in English 1036 GMT 24 Oct 84

[By Marie Joannidis]

[Text] Conakry, Oct 24 (AFP) — The general climate of euphoria which followed the downfall last April of the late Sekou Toure's 26-year-old regime has given way to the rude reality of this West African state's dismal economic situation.

The military officers who seized power April 3 readily admit today that much of the (?Guinean) economy is in a "catastrophic state," its bureaucracy bloated and poorly organized and the national currency over-valued. As a result, the government led by Colonel Lansana Conte is faced with the difficult job of imposing strict austerity measures in order to receive needed backing from the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Negotiations with the IMF opened here Monday in the aim of rescheduling the country's (?1.5) billion dollar foreign debt — a move which should encourage foreign investors to get involved in Guinean agriculture and the country's promising mining sector. In return for the rescheduling, the IMF is expected to insist on the devaluation of the national currency, the syli, which currently sells on the black market for 10 times the official rate of 25 to the dollar, as well as on reforms in the public sector.

Guinean officials stress that on taking power seven months ago, just days after the death of President Toure, they found the "coffers empty" and the economy in shambles. The current regime has opened investigations into the fate of missing state funds, apparently including Western aid — primarily from the United States, Canada, France and West Germany — and military aid provided by the Soviet Union.

One of the nation's bauxite mines is currently operated by the Soviet Union and most of its earnings are used to repay the military debt. Several government officials said that members of the Toure regime now being detained in the Kandia prison camp had refused to talk about the missing money before the start of planned trials against them. Government investigators are currently drawing up charges of "economic crimes" to be lodged against some of the former officials.

In its effort to reshape Guinea's troubled economy, the ruling Military Committee for National Recovery has created a 10-member Executive Bureau to carry out sector-by-sector studies of necessary reforms. The bureau includes several ministers and reflects the ethnic makeup of the country, the Information Ministry said.

But the task facing the new government remains imposing after 26 years of growing state involvement in the economy which analysts say all but strangled the country's agricultural sector — Guinea imported 60,000 tonnes of rice last year while its own paddies lay idle — as well as the nation's small and medium-sized businesses.

A conference which opened here Monday to draw up an industrial plan for the country revealed that Guinean industry lost some 2 billion sylis (80 million dollars at the official exchange rate) over the past five years. Industrial production over the same period made up only 5 percent of the gross national product, compared to the more than 20 percent recorded in neighboring African economies.

But despite these economic difficulties, Guinea remains one of Africa's most well-endowed nations in terms of mineral resources. Economists say the bauxite, iron, diamonds, gold and platinum in its soil hold major promise for the country's future. Guinea is the world's third producer of bauxite, with reserves estimated at some 20 billion tonnes, and exports of the mineral are worth some 250 million dollars per year.

Amid signs that the new government is serious about putting its economic house in order, several foreign investment groups, led notably by businessmen from the United States, also recently agreed to get involved in a major diamond mining operation.

Briefs

New Envoys — The minister of foreign affairs, Captain Facine Toure, today received Erik Cornell, new Swedish ambassador to Guinea, and (Yu Huyin), new PRC ambassador to Conakry, who came to present copies of their letters of credence. [Excerpt] [*Conakry Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 23 Oct 84 AB*]

IVORY COAST

Intergovernmental Negotiations Begin With FRG

AB241101 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 24 Oct 84 p 4

[Excerpts] Cooperation between Ivory Coast and the FRG is good and the intergovernmental negotiations which began yesterday are a testimony to this. But our German guests did not hesitate to use the frank and concrete language which characterizes every true friendly relation: They do not appreciate the slowness which sometimes restrains the practical implementation of some

projects. The leader of the German delegation, Mr Preuss, pointed it out that such a situation could pose problems for the German parliament. This is why he suggested that another meeting of this kind should be held next year. He felt that in this way, all financial cooperation projects between the two countries could be updated, taking into account all kinds of modifications and changes. Then from 1986, he suggested, "intergovernmental negotiations... could be held every 2 years, as was initially decided in 1975."

The current meeting will examine the possiblity for our country to benefit from new projects in the rural sector. These projects concern the development of small-scale fishing and agriculture, as well as special projects in areas of the northeast, west, and southeast. The establishment of young farmers, agro-pastoral integration in the savanna area, normalization and quality control, and promotion of small-and medium-scale enterprises and cottage industries are among the issues which the Ivorians would like their German partners to examine.

LIBERIA

Two Civil Servants Publicly Flogged in Monrovia

AB241038 Paris AFP in English 0427 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Monrovia, Oct 24 (AFP) — Two civil servants were given 25 lashes each publicly on Broad Street, a thoroughfare here, and were sacked for what officials termed "payroll padding" at the Finance Ministry since last March, the Liberian state news agency LINA reported Tuesday.

LINA said Finance Minister Alvin Jones further ordered keypuncher Henry O. Williams and auditor Peter G. Mulbah, who worked in the data processing division where government payroll checks are processed, to be jailed at the post stockade, a maximum security prison at the military barracks here.

Petty criminals were first flogged on their bare backs publicly in Liberia in 1979 upon government orders. The military regime also announced public flogging for individuals circulating anonymous leaflets critical of government, but no one has received punishment for that yet.

Education Ministry Disputes Statement

AB250840 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] The Ministry of Education has reacted sharply to the alleged statement by Finance Minister J. Alvin Jones that one of the two persons publicly flogged Tuesday, Peter Mulbah, was an employee of the Education Ministry. According to a release from the Education Ministry, authorities there have expressed great regrets over the statement by Minister Jones and described it as unfortunate and misleading. Minister Jones is quoted in yesterday's *OBSERVER* as saying prior to the flogging of the two members on Tuesday, that Peter Mulbah was an auditor at the Ministry of Education, while Henry Williams was a keypuncher at the Ministry of Finance.

The two men were publicly flogged Tuesday on Broad Street in Monrovia for allegedly defrauding the government of $4,800 over a period of 4 months.

The release quotes the assistant minister of education for administration, Charles Breeze Jr, as saying preliminary investigation shows that no one in person of a Peter Mulbah is or has ever been an employee of the Ministry of Education. He lamented the recent wave of such statements, which he observed has tended to expose teachers and other civil servants employed by the Ministry of Education to public ridicule.

Minister Breeze described the statement allegedly made by Finance Minister Jones as erroneous and said Peter Mulbah was an employee of the Ministry of Finance instead of the Ministry of Education.

LAP Presents Partial Registration Requirements

AB250800 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] Partial requirements for registration have been presented to the Special Elections Commission [Secom] by another proposed political party. A LINA [LIBERIA NEWS AGENCY] report said the Liberia Action Party, LAP, yesterday presented a manager's check for $50,000 in property bonds for $125,400 to the chairman of the Secom, Ambassador Emett Harman. LAP national chairman, Counsellor Tuan Wreh, who made the presentation at Secom headquarters in Archmond Street, said the requirements were submitted in compliance with the guidelines set by Secom for the registration of political parties in the country.

A copy of the party's articles of incorporation, as well as constitution and by-laws, were also presented yesterday to Chairman Harman. Counsellor Wreh was accompanied to Secom by a nine-man delegation of LAP's national organizing committee, including Harry A. Greaves Sr, Dr S. Byron Tarr, David M. Farhat, and P. Nadei Brookley, among others.

MALI

20th CEAO Session Opens in Bamako 23 Oct

AB232015 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Excerpt] The 20th session of the CEAO [West African Economic Community] ministerial conference opened this morning at 1000 under the chairmanship of Drissa Keita, the Malian minister of finance. In the opening speech, Mr Keita said that the current meeting has a particular meaning because it coincides with the organization's 10th anniversary.

This session will enable the ministers to evaluate cooperation between member states. They will also reflect on the crucial problems hindering the progress of the organization. The minister said that the CEAO is more than a mere international gathering because of the positive outcome of the different meetings and the promising projects to be implemented.

Soviet Red Cross Donates Food to Malian Red Cross

AB232220 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Excerpt] The Soviet Red Cross has made a donation to the Malian Red Cross. The presentation ceremony took place this morning at the Malian Red Cross headquarters at Djeniboutou in the presence of certain members of the Central Committee of the Red Cross and of the Malian (?Youth) Movement.

Presenting this consignment of drugs and food supplies to the chairman of the Malian Red Cross, Hassan Feye, the USSR ambassador to Mali, His Excellency Yevgeniy Nersesov, gave the reason for this donation.

[Begin recording] The Soviet league of the Red Cross and Red Crescent associations has sent a large consignment of drugs and food supplies to [words indistinct] to help drought victims. [end recording]

NIGERIA

Saudi, Mexican, Venezuelan Oil Ministers Arrive

AB241735 Paris AFP in French 1719 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Lagos, 24 Oct (AFP) — Saudi Oil Minister Shaykh Yamani arrived in Lagos about 1700 GMT at the head of a 19-member delegation including his Mexican and Venezuelan counterparts, it was learned at the Lagos airport.

The Saudi minister, who is expected to hold talks with Nigerian officials, will leave Lagos at 2300 GMT (0000 local time), the same source announced. Shaykh Yamani might speak to the press shortly before his departure, a reliable source said.

No Price Change Announced

AB250620 Paris AFP in English 0402 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] Lagos, Oct 25 (AFP) — Nigeria did not announce any change in its oil prices Wednesday evening following a visit to Lagos of Saudi Oil Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani and the Mexican and Venezuelan oil ministers.

Shaykh Yamani said that "we came here to inform the Nigerians about the work that six of us (oil ministers) did in Geneva. Our purpose is to have it understood that a joint strategy serves our interests much better than isolated acts."

The Nigerian side indicated that the Nigerian prices, lowered by two dollars last Thursday to make its chief export blend sell at $28 a barrel, remained unchanged at present.

Shaykh Yamani expressed confidence in Nigerian "realism" in the future. He said talks with head of state General Muhammadu Buhari — himself the oil minister in a previous administration — had been "frank and open." The current tendency could be "reversed to stop the conspiracy to further have a price cut," Shaykh Yamani told a press conference before leaving for talks in Norway, which has also lowered its oil price. Britain has done likewise, and Shaykh Yamani said Nigeria's move downwards was based on those other two reductions. That would change because market realities would alter, and he had no doubt it would be in Nigeria's interest to put its price back up.

The Saudi minister conceded that mistakes had been made by members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), which is to meet in Geneva next Monday. He cited barter deals, discounts and production surplus to quotas, but insisted they were not enough to account for the current prices crisis. Shaykh Yamani estimated November demand for OPEC output at 19 million barrels a day, with an increase in December. World stocks were rather low, he added. He denied that Saudi Arabia itself had failed to respect OPEC solidarity. It had produced only 3.4 million barrels a day last month, and only its sense of responsibility was preventing it from selling more, he said.

Nigeria's oil minister, Tam David-West, said OPEC solidarity and Nigeria's own interests were at stake. Nigeria would put its cards on the table at the Geneva meeting, he added.

The Venezuelan minister, Arturo Hernandez Grisanti, said that while not perfect, OPEC was the only instrument available, and it was to be trusted. He accused industrial and former colonial powers of constantly seeking to destroy OPEC.

Mexican Oil Minister Francisco Labastida Ochoa, whose country is not in OPEC, said the interests of all producers, members or not, were being defended. The question was whether the defence of a single interest would not harm the interests of all, he said.

'Economic Realities' Justified Oil Price Cut

AB241046 Lagos International Service in English 0930 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Viewpoint]

[Text] North Sea crude oil is in direct competition with Nigeria's Bonny Light. Norway has reviewed the price of her oil downward by $1.50 while Britain cut her price by $1.35. The price of Nigeria's Bonny Light, which is of the same quality with the North Sea oil, went down by $2.00. This development has generated reactions within and outside OPEC, of which Nigeria is a member. For days there have been speculations about the likely effects of the price cut on the world oil market, and attempts to deduce the factors responsible for the price reducing.

For Nigeria, the reduction in the price of her oil is an economic imperative. Since the North Sea oil is similar in quality to Nigeria's Bonny Light and therefore in direct competition, the cut in the price of the North Sea oil was bound to be felt (?fully) by Nigeria if she did not review her price to match those of the North Sea oil producers. She stood the risk of losing her customers to her North Sea competitors who are not members of OPEC. This would have meant a tremendous loss of revenue for Nigeria, which depends on oil for more than 90 percent of her income. Any failure to act would have been a criminal neglect on the part of Nigeria and of her national interests. She therefore had no

option but to observe a situation which could have further worsened her economic plight.

It has been established that Nigeria keeps the discipline in the OPEC (?frame). In spite of this, however, she has so far been faced by numereous attempts by enemies of the OPEC to use her to destabilize the cartel. The [word indistinct] of this threat against OPEC has been the North Sea oil producers who, ironically, have benefited tremendously from the stability in oil prices brought about by OPEC policies without sacrificing anything.

For instance, because they are not members of the OPEC, the North Sea producers are not restricted by the organization's production quota. While, for example, Nigeria is limited by OPEC's policy to produce only 1.3 million barrels per day since 1983, Britain, with less quantity of oil reserves, produces at the rate of 2.4 million barrels per day. Nigeria's (?worth) within the OPEC is not in doubt. But as her petroleum and energy minister said when he announced the price cuts, while we are always prepared to honor our commitments to OPEC, we are also conscious of our responsibility to our people. It is this national duty coupled with the economic realities facing Nigeria that have justified the step she took in reducing the price of her crude oil.

Papers Comment on IMF Loan, World Oil Glut

AB241430 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The *FINANCIAL PUNCH* comments on the controversy over the IMF loan. The paper notes that the controversy over the loan has been dragged for too long. The *FINANCIAL PUNCH* therefore urges the Federal Government to make a final decision on the issue.

The *NEW NIGERIAN* expressed concern over the continued world oil glut. The paper attributes it to overproduction and price fluctuation by some non-OPEC memberstates. It equally observes that the situation has affected OPEC market stability. The *NEW NIGERIAN* endorses the views expressed by the minister of petroleum and energy that immediate and appropriate action should be taken to safeguard the country's interests.

Further on Closing of Radio, TV Stations

Idiagbon on Closings

AB241224 Lagos NAN in English 1208 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Lagos, Oct. 24 (NAN) — The chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, said in Lagos yesterday that the Federal Government would close down all mushroom radio stations [substandard state operated radio stations] established in the 19 states by the politicians.

Speaking at the inauguration of a committee on the rationalisation of radio and television services at Dodan Barracks, Brig Idiagbon said that in their place, the Federal Government would re-equip the shortwave radio station in Lagos, Ibadan, Enugu, Kaduna and Abuja to offer better services to the nation and to save cost.

He said that this was necessary because some of the stations were finding it extremely difficult to survive because of lack of funds to maintain their staff and equipment.

He noted that the politicians in an attempt to win votes engaged in an uplanned establishment of radio and television stations all over the country.

These stations, he stated, become megaphones of political parties in power, suppressing or grossly distorting information to suit the whims and caprices of the politicians.

Consequently, said Brig Idiagbon, they fanned the embers of disunity, disaffection and discord and succeeded in poisoning the political atmosphere to such an extent that law and order virtually broke down in some states.

He also noted that most television stations were clustered in the state capitals where they performed overlapping functions, adding that this situation could not be allowed to continue. He expressed the hope that members of the committee would justify the confidence reposed in them.

The chairman of the 10-man committee, Mr Christopher Kolade, a former director general of FRCN [Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria], who noted that television was at its worst in the country in 1983, pledged that the committee would do its best to produce results. The committee is to rationalize the television services provided by the NTA [Nigerian Television Authority], having regard to the existence and coverage of the state television stations and the general duties of the authority as specified in the NTA decree and other relevant legislations.

The exercise is aimed at streamlining television broadcasting in the country to save cost and make the service more efficient. The committee is to submit its report not later than Nov. 16, 1984.

Many Station Closures Forecast

NC242038 Paris AFP in English 2023 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Lagos, Oct 24 (AFP) — Nigeria is to close down a large number of radio stations in order to allow the country's federal stations to operate properly, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, number two in the military government, has said here.

Brig. Idiagbon, announcing the move yesterday at a meeting to launch a committee on electronic media, said that radio stations had "mushroomed" in the West African state.

No less than 48 stations — 19 of them run by individual states and 19 by the federal government — are currently broadcasting in Nigeria, he said. [figures as received]

Brig. Idiagbon also hinted that a similar decision could soon be taken in relation to Nigeria's 32 television stations, 22 of which belong to the military government.

'Clarification' Given on Closures

AB241615 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Excerpt] A clarification has been given on the mushroom radio stations to be closed down by the Federal Military Government [FMG].

Those affected are the radio stations established by the Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria FRCN in the states and not the state government-owned stations.

The clarification came from the military public relations officer, Supreme Headquarters, Major Wole Tunwayo, in an interview with a Radio Nigeria state house correspondent.

He explained that state government-owned stations were allowed to continue with their programs but to pick up with Radio Nigeria for network news and programs.

Announcing the Federal Government's decision yesterday, the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, said that the shortwave radio stations in Lagos, Ibadan, Kaduna, Enugu, and Abuja would be reequipped to offer better services to the nation and save costs.

Idiagbon Calls for Closer Ties With Morocco

AB241445 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Nigeria has called for closer cooperation with Morocco in the areas of agriculture, education, and exchange of visits in order to sustain the bilateral relations between them.

The call was made in Lagos yesterday by the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, while exchanging views with the Moroccan ambassador to Nigeria, Mr Mohammed Sale Zaimi.

Joint Defense Program With DPRK Explored

AB241620 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Nigeria and North Korea are to evolve a machinery to explore ways of establishing joint programs on defense. This was stated in Lagos by the minister of defense, Major General D.Y. Bali, while receiving in audience the ambassador of North Korea, Mr Pak Won-chol, who paid him a courtesy visit.

Recalling last year's visit of the North Korean vice president, Gen Bali commended the country's policy of nonalignment and anti-apartheid. He said that developing countries have no other choice but to fully cooperate amongst themselves.

Replying, the ambassador agreed that establishing joint programs on defense would contribute to the Federal Military Government's efforts at revamping the economy.

Minister Wants 'New Information Order'

AB241045 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] The Nigerian press has been told to evolve a new information order that will focus on the needs of the rural population, as well as promote discipline, nationalism, and patriotism. The minister of the Federal Capital Territory, Major General Mamman Vatsa, made the call in Calabar yesterday while delivering an address at the opening of the 1984 press week of the Cross River State chapter of the NUJ [Nigerian Union of Journalists]. Major General Vatsa said the Nigerian press should abandon sensational journalism and, instead, highlight the achievements of the successful farmer, social worker, or nurse.

Former Kano Governor Gets 21-Year Jail Term

AB242020 Lagos NAN in English 1314 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Kaduna, Oct 24 (NAN) — The Special Military Tribunal on the Recovery of Public Property, Kaduna Zone, yesterday in Kaduna sentenced a former governor of Kano, Sabo Bakin Zuwo, to 21 years imprisonment for corruptly enriching himself by 3,503,973 naira which was a donation to the defunct PRP [People's Redemption Party]. Former Governor Sabo Bakin Zuwo had been standing trial on a two-count charge of corruptly enriching himself by N2,576,270 and N800,000 which he kept with and recovered from one Alhaji Mujtaba Mahmud Dantata. He was said to have hurriedly transferred the money from his private residence on learning of the coup detat on Jan 1, to the house of Alhaji Mujtaba Dantata in three suit-cases and one polyethelene bag. Delivering judgment, the tribunal chairman, Commodore Babatunde Elegbede, said that the money was a contribution made to the party but could not say whether there were strings attached to it. Commodore Elegbede said there was nothing wrong for Bakin-Zuwo to have used his position as governor to invite well-to-do people to donate to his party. But it becomes an offence if such donations are put to personal use instead of the purpose for which it is collected, he said. Commodore Zlegbede said there was no document or witness called by the former governor to testify that his party had mandated him to receive or collect donations from people on its behalf. The tribunal rejected the evidence of Bakin Zuwo that N800,000 out of the amount was his own money got from the sale of his houses in Kano. Bakin Zuwo, who pleaded not guilty to the charges, said that the money was meant for the local government election and that the party had set a target sum of N5 million for him. Alhaji Sabo Bakin Zuwo also told the tribunal that he never accused the NSO [National Security organization] of stealing part of the money as alleged in the media and that he never spoke with any pressman since the change of government. He said that he was very happy that nobody said that he stole the money, adding that the accountant-general of Kano State who testified before the tribunal never said that the money was stolen from the government treasury. If Jakande collected N14 million for Awolowo, what is N2.5 million, he asked. In passing sentence, Commodore Elegbede said the tribunal had taken note of the passionate plea unusual of Bakin.

ANGOLA

KUP Reports 450 FAPLA Killed in October Actions

MB241029 (Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 24 Oct, KUP — About 450 FAPLA, 60 Cubans, and 7 Soviets were killed in Angola by UNITA forces during the 2d and 3d week of October. A communique from the general staff of UNITA stated last Sunday that UNITA soldiers fighting the MPLA killed 6 FAPLA, captured 300 weapons, shot down a Mi-8 and MiG-21, and destroyed 60 military trucks, 2 T-34 and PT-76 tanks.

According to the same source, UNITA forces annihilated a convoy escorted by the MPLA 18th and 30th brigades, which were supplying the 3d, 8th, and 82d brigades in areas controlled by UNITA, south of Munhango, on Sunday last week. Results: 22 Cubans and approximately 160 FAPLA killed, 30 trucks destroyed, and 1 T-34 tank and 5 MPLA soldiers captured. Still in Cuando- Cubango and in the same week, UNITA forces attacked the MPLA 13th Brigade 18 kms east of Cuito-Cuanavale, killing 16 FAPLA and 6 Soviets. In the 2d week of October, UNITA forces attacked a convoy of Cuban trucks on the Saurimo/Ndala road, killing 17 Cubans and destroying 8 Ural and IFA trucks and 1 PT-76 tank.

A Mi8 helicopter, which was supporting the 178th Brigade in its attempt to penetrate areas under UNITA control, was shot down at Kahungula. The helicopter and its passengers burned. Special UNITA commands penetrated the city of Huambo and attacked FAPLA and Cuban barracks guarding the airport, killing nine FAPLA and three Cubans. Also in Huambo Province in the 2d week of October, UNITA forces attacked the Cir Kapango training center, situated 26 kms northeast of Huambo, killing 41 FAPLA, 7 official instructors, and 4 Cuban advisers, and destroying six military dormitories.

In the other attacks carried out by UNITA's forces against MPLA's 48th Brigade, situated 19 kms southeast of Chitumbo, 19 FAPLA, 7 Cubans, and 1 Soviet were killed, and one communication radio and eight small arms were captured. UNITA's antiaircraft artillery shot down a MiG-21 last Monday in the Huambo area. During the capture of the enemy position at Ngalange in Huila Province, 16 FAPLA were killed immediately, and 19 others were killed when UNITA forces destroyed the 166th Brigade. Among the dead was Lieutenant Rafael Joao, who died when his forces tried to reach one of UNITA's positions. In these operations UNITA suffered 16 dead, 33 wounded, and 7 missing.

LESOTHO

Jonathan Appeals To Nation To Support BNP

MB241820 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] The prime minister, Rt Hon Dr Leabua Jonathan, says that all the Basotho National Party [BNP] requests from Basotho is love and support to enable the party to win the coming general elections and therefore do more for Basotho. Addressing a well attended meeting at Hanger's Drift in the Berea constituency today, Dr Jonathan said his party is not ashamed of itself, because the record of the BNP government and its politics of unity speak for themselves.

He said it is this policy which made it possible for peace to reign in Lesotho, a fact which was recognized by the international community and in turn awarded him the 1984 Dag Hammarskjold Peace Prize. He said he has always advocated politics of peace and reconciliation, and had even warned Mokhehle that he would have no support among Basotho if he continued to advocate the devisive politics of violence.

The prime minister said to demonstrate his sincerity, he had asked opposition party members, such as Mr Mofeli, to work with him in the Cabinet, but they had failed to fulfil their obligations to the nation. Dr Jonathan said that administering a country is no small task, because one had to deal with people with all sorts of characters and temperments. He said in this context one therefore has to have certain attributes such as humility, patience, courage, and perseverance to unite the various types of people.

He expressed his gratitude to Basotho in all the 60 constituencies who have supported him over the past 18 years, since without them he would not have been able to be awarded the peace prize.

The prime minister said Lesotho's geopolitical situation makes her administration uniquely difficult. At this juncture, he appealed to the people of Hanger's Drift to refrain from stealing South African farmers' livestock and from other dishonorable acts, as this will only exacerbate the situation. He urged the people to arrest any person found stealing, and hand them over to the police together with their loot. He added that theft has never been a part of Basotho character, and he would never be proud to govern a nation of thieves.

Addressing himself to school children throughout the country, the prime minister said the government is committed to the education of Basotho children, because education is the foundation of all success. But, he said, the government will not stand by and watch property being destroyed and teachers being beaten up by school children. He then appealed to parents to raise their children well, so that they may grow to respect property and education, which the government has to pay for from meager resources.

Turning to civil servants and workers in other sectors, Dr Jonathan said although they complained of meager salaries, they should compare what people of similar positions earned in 1966, and what they earned now. He added that, because the government realised the increases in the prices of commodities, it constituted a salaries commission which will present its report to the government next month. Dr Jonathan warned that any increases would have to be accomodated within the existing level of our financial resources. Among the people present to listen to the prime minister were the minister of water, energy, and mining, Hon P.M. Majara, members of parliament, chiefs, and thousands of Basotho.

BDA Suffering From 'Squabble' Over Leadership

MB241808 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1130 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Further signs of (?disaffection) have recently been reported in the ranks of the Basotho Democratic Alliance [BDA]. An announcement this week by the Ramoreboli faction of the Basotholand Congress Party and the Marema Tlou Freedom Party [MFP] denying participation in the alliance is contrary to a statement recently made by the chairman of the BDA, Mr Phooka Chaolane, in which he said these organizations were members of the alliance.

Mr Chaolane has said that through the efforts of the alliance these political parties would receive South African financial backing during the forthcoming general elections. According to reports, Mr Stephen Motlamelle, a member of the executive committee of the [word indistinct] faction of the BCP, has said that his faction of the BPC was not a member of the BDA.

Speaking on behalf of the MFP, its deputy leader, Mr (Setename Mapheleba), has also denied that the MFP is a member of the BDA. Mr (Mapheleba) said that his party had no knowledge of any election financial arrangements made between the MFP and the BDA.

Earlier reports had indicated that there was a fierce leadership squabble within the BDA itself. Reliable sources recently reported that the BDA president, Mr C.D. Molapo, and his chairman, Mr P. Chaolane, were engaged in an intense contest for leadership. The leadership crisis, it is believed, is caused mainly by the massive unpopularity of Mr C.D. Molapo throughout the country. This unpopularity of the BDA president is believed to be a major stumbling block for the alliance. Pressure is now being put on Mr Molapo to relinquish the leadership for a more acceptable and popular man.

Minister Says Tension With RSA Now Resolved

MB241900 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] The minister of water, energy, and mining, Hon P.M. Majara, says that the tense situation between Lesotho and South Africa has been resolved in spite of attempts which were made to cause Lesotho to sign a nonaggression pact with her neighbor. Speaking at a meeting, which was addressed by the prime minister at Hanger's Drift in the Berea District this morning, Mr Majara said that the Basotho today under the leadership of Dr Jonathan enjoyed peace, which was inherited from Moshoeshoe I, founder of the Basotho nation.

Referring to the proposed Highland Water Scheme, the minister said that this scheme should play an important role in the country's development. It would supply water for drinking and irrigation, and also create job opportunities for many people. Mr Majara congratulated the prime minister for having been awarded the Dag Hammarskjold Peace Prize in recognition of his pursuance of international cooperation and harmony. The minister urged Dr Jonathan to refuse to sign the so-called non-aggression pact with South Africa, and promised him full support.

MALAWI

Mozambique's Machel Addresses Press on State Visit

MB241530 Blantyre Domestic Service in English
1810 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Press conference given by Samora Machel, president of the People's Republic of Mozambique and chairman of the Frelimo Party, at Sanjika Palace in Malawi on 23 October, recorded in Portuguese with sentence by sentence English translation — processed from Portuguese]

[Excerpt] These 5 days of traditional African hospitality that have been accorded us by the people and government of Malawi, particularly their life president, my own brother and friend, Ngwazi Dr Hastings Kamuzu Banda, were remarkable days during which we made ourselves at home here in Malawi. During these 5 days we have examined our cooperation, our problems and difficulties, and ways and means of overcoming them. We have thus pledged before the peoples of Mozambique and Malawi to strengthen the ties of friendship, fraternity, and good neighborliness necessary for the establishment of a lasting peace and fruitful cooperation between our nations.

We have solemnly pledged to cooperate for the maximum utilization of our natural resources and infrastructures, which are of vital importance in the development of both countries. We have strengthened our bilateral relations, thus contributing to further cooperation within the Southern African Development Coordination Conference. In particular, we have pledged to cooperate in the economic, technical, scientific, social, and cultural fields, as well as in the fields of transport and communications, agriculture, industry, commerce, mines, energy, fisheries, tourism, health, education and culture, sports, mass media, and mass democratic organizations,

At the heads of state level, we have signed the general agreement of cooperation between the People's Republic of Mozambique and the Republic of Malawi. The agreement provides for the establishment of a joint standing commission to implement and follow up our cooperation agreement. This commission is an instrument for the carrying out cooperation between our nations and governments.

We have made a special pledge for close cooperation of our defense and security forces to preserve our security and tranquillity along our common borders. It is necessary to eliminate the armed banditry and criminal action so that in peace and stability we can implement our economic and social development projects. The society that we want in Mozambique is not a society of vagrants and criminals. The society that we want in Mozambique is not a society of thieves. It is not a society made up of antisocial elements. The armed banditry comes from within this framework, and that is why we insist that there should be cooperation so as to consolidate our hard-won independence.

The Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique will not allow its territory to be transformed into a refuge or transit

camp for the agents of destabilization and criminality from Malawi. The People's Republic of Mozambique will expel from its territory all the elements who prepare, foment, or carry out acts of violence or subversion against our peoples and states. The Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique will hand over, and I repeat, the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique will hand over, deport, and extradite to the Malawian authorities all criminals of Malawian nationality who try to seek refuge or carry out actions against Malawi from Mozambican territory. That is why, members of the press, I have brought along the leader of Niassa Province, which borders your country. That is why I have brought along the leader of Zambezia Province, which is another province that borders your country. That is why I have brought along the leader of Tete Province, which has a 1,400 km long border with your country.

We want to stress here that the Mozambicans residing in this country will continue to participate with their labor, minds, devotion, and capability in the building of a strong and prosperous Malawian economy. Likewise, these Mozambicans will participate with patriotic zeal, fighting spirit, and active solidarity with the people of Malawi in the relentless fight against banditry and criminality.

Our principle of peace is contained in the Nkomati Accord, which we signed with the Government of South Africa. The objective of the accord is very clear. This accord is aimed at ending aggression and bringing about stability and progress between countries with different political systems. The Pretoria Declaration of 3 October is part of the framework of the implementation of the Nkomati Accord and constitutes a decisive step forward for the South African Govenment to assume its responsibilities in the neutralization and elimination of the armed banditry in Mozambique. Positive steps have been taken in this direction and the South African Government has demonstrated its readiness to assume its respective role.

Our struggle for independence and development is part and parcel of the struggles of the oppressed and exploited peoples all over the world, in particular, the peoples of the African continent who are fighting against colonialism, racism and imperialism. Our voice is heard with pride in the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, and the OAU, because we are a people with a very coherent, clear-cut, and consistent policy.

Unfortunately, however, there are serious diseases in our continent that we have not yet eliminated. There are brothers of ours who are still fighting, fighting day and night to acquire their independence and dignity — the dignity of free citizens in their own fatherland. We would like to turn your attention to the struggle of the Namibian people. It is the duty of all Africans to support this struggle. We cannot ignore it. We must also support the struggle of our brothers of Western Sahara, which is occupied by Morocco, because theirs is a just struggle, a struggle for independence.

All of us here have a duty to destroy apartheid, because those who practice apartheid are white people, although Africans. They consider the blacks to be foreigners in their own fatherland. Therefore, for human beings and Africans, apartheid is a shame. We condemn apartheid and are in solidarity with the struggles of the South African people. If you ask why, it is because they fight for equality, democracy, and an end to racial discrimination. They fight so that they may all simply be South Africans, with no aliens. Accordingly, as human beings, as Africans, we repudiate and fight against the colonization of Namibia and Western Sahara. As human beings and Africans, as a peace-loving people, a people who love democracy, liberty, and equality between men, we have our solidarity with the struggles of the African peoples, whose independence will mean the end of colonization in our continent.

On behalf of the Mozambican people, the Frelimo Party, the state and Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique, we wish to thank the Malawian people, his excellency the life president, Kamuzu Banda, the Malawi Congress Party, and the Government of the Republic of Malawi for the splendid and extraordinary preparations for our visit and the way it was carried out.

MAURITIUS

Jugnauth Wants Control Over Diego Garcia Returned

BK241625 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] The Mauritius prime minister, Mr Aneerood Jugnauth, has said that his country wants to regain sovereignty over the Chagos archipelago, which also includes Diego Garcia. In an exclusive interview with our special correspondent, Sabastian Robert, in Port Louis, he said that he has had discussions with the British prime minister, Mrs Thatcher, on the issue.

Mr Jugnauth said that the only way to achieve this is to put more international pressure on the West to make them concede to this demand. He said Mauritius wants the Indian Ocean to be free from big power rivalry and all foreign bases there should be removed.

About Indo-Mauritius relations, he said India is helping his country in various fields and the high-level visits between them have strengthened the relations further. A joint shipping corporation, he said, is another area where the two countries can cooperate. A Mauritius scientist will accompany the next Indian expedition to Antarctica, he said.

Prime Minister Meets India's Singh in Port Louis

BK231113 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Excerpt] India has assured all possible assistance to Mauritius in its development activities and has has agreed to enlarge the areas of cooperation between the two countries. The assurance was conveyed to the Mauritian prime minister, Mr Aneerood Jugnauth, when he called on the visiting president, Giani Zail Singh, in Port Louis this morning. During their 45-minute meeting, the two leaders exchanged views on bilateral issues and matters of mutual interest including the situation in the region and increasing superpower rivalry in the Indian Ocean.

Mr Jugnauth expressed his gratitude for the assistance and cooperation India provided for the progress of Mauritian economy. India ranked second next to (?France) in extending assistance to Mauritius.

Later, inaugurating an international seminar to mark the 150th anniversary of the coming of Indian immigrants and abolition of slavery in Mauritius at Port Louis, Giani Zail Singh deplored the apartheid policy followed by the racist Pretoria regime in South Africa. The president reiterated India's support and cooperation to the African countries in their struggle to remove racism and apartheid from South Africa and Namibia.

Singh on Indian Ocean Militarization

BK241619 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] The president has voiced concern over the increased military activity in the Indian Ocean and also about a nuclear holocaust. Giani Zail Singh was laying the foundation stone of the Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Hospital at (Rose Bell) in Mauritius. He said peace in region is threatened by the foreign military bases and warships of superpowers. This is a grave concern to both India and Mauritius, he said.

The president said that the hospital will remain a symbol of everlasting friendship between the two countries. He also felt happy that the hospital was named after Jawaharlal Nehru who laid the foundation of modern India. Giani Zail Singh said India is keen to cooperate with Mauritius in whatever way is possible. The entire cost for the construction of 180-bed hospital, which will be 1.3 crore rupees, is being met by India.

The minister of state for external affairs, Mr A.A. Rahim and the Mauritius prime minister, Mr Aneerood Jugnauth, held discussions on bilateral matters in Port Louis. Mr Rahim offered an assistance of over 1 crore rupees to Mauritius to construct a court building there. The official delegation, led by the secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, Mr Ramesh Bhandari, assisted the minister in the talks.

MOZAMBIQUE

Health Cooperation Agreement Signed With USSR

MB241830 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] The health ministers of Mozambique and the USSR recently signed a cooperation plan for the 1985-87 period. The plan establishes that the USSR will continue to send doctors to work in Mozambique and will receive Mozambique health specialists for the exchange experiences in the fight against infectious diseases, notably malaria. The plan, which was signed by Mozambican Minister of Health Pascoal Mocumbi and USSR Minister of Health Sergey Burenkov, is part of the already existing health agreement between the two countries.

What is more, Minister Pascoal Mocumbi arrived in Berlin for a working visit to the GDR, and he has already held a meeting with GDR health officials. At the meeting, the two sides reviewed the development of the GDR-Mozambique cooperation in the fields of health and health care under the terms of an agreement signed in 1981.

SOUTH AFRICA

Vaal Triangle Operation Ends; Draws Mixed Reaction

Troops Leave; Patrols Continue

MB241207 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] The police and Defense Force-backed search-and-arrest operations in black townships of the Vaal Triangle have come to an end. The police Public Relations Division says 358 people were arrested during the operations. The final 10 arrests were in Sharpeville and Boipatong. The police say there were no incidents of unrest in black townships this morning. However, police patrols which were in the townships before the operations will remain there until the overall situation in the areas has returned to normal.

U.S. Reaction to Operation Noted

MB250752 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Government along Western democratic lines, which has been practiced for 300 years in South Africa and is being extended to larger sections of the population, has one very real shortcoming. By definition its does not make provision for measures to neutralize or combat terrorism, political violence, extraparliamentary action, or largescale unrest. The only way of overcoming willful and protracted unrest and instigation, and in these circumstances to restore a climate of tranquillity, is through security action, which could be regarded as undemocratic, and for which there is not always the necessary sanction.

Governments which avail themselves of such methods then also lay themselves open to severe censure. The flood of criticism of South Africa's effort to restore law and order with the aid of the police, railway police, and the Defense Force after 2 months of unrest, pillaging, and the disruption of education confirms this. In its reaction, the Southern African Catholic Bishops Conference described the operation as an unwarranted military siege. The chairman of the UN committee against apartheid, Major General Garba, accused South Africa of using its Armed Forces in a war against the black people.

In the midst of the climate in which South Africa finds itself, the United States did not see its way clear to join in the condemnation of South Africa's new constitution in the UN Security Council on Tuesday evening. The consistent view of the United States is that political developments in South Africa should be given a chance. The reaction to Operation Palmiet by a spokesman of the American State Department, Mr John Hughes, was therefore somewhat surprising. These repressive measures, he says, are

bound to put in question the South African Government's professed intentions of dealing with the problems of the country by reform and consensus.

In reality, the shortlived operation was nothing more than an effort to put a stop to continued lawlessness and thuggery, and to restore the orderly and edifying way of life for which the area had become known. The climate which prevailed there benefited only the anarchist. It has not yet been possible to do anything about the democratic structures of communications at schools which, at the insistence of pupils, have been approved. South Africa has committed itself irrevocably to further constitutional reform involving the black communities.

In his opening address to the new parliament President Botha put it this way: Democratic political participation must also be extended to the black communities in South Africa in order to ensure their advancement and to meet the demands for justice. There can therefore be no doubt among friends and foe alike about the country's commitment to extending the basis of the democratic system to the black communities. But, Mr Botha said, and this is an important but, stability, peace, and cooperation were prerequisites for meaningful political, social, and economic progress. The goal of a democratic dispensation in a country with divergent interest groups ... a potential for conflict cannot be realized in a climate of chaos and anarchy.

'Drastic Action' Defended

MB241053 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Station commentary: "Operation Palmiet in Sebokeng"]

[Text] Operation Palmiet, aimed at restoring normality to the black townships of Sebokeng, Sharpeville, and Boipatong, will undoubtedly be grist to the mill of South Africa's many enemies. The prevailing unfavorable climate in which the country finds itself, coupled with the bad publicity it is presently experiencing, will enable its opponents to present the operation as a further example of the unfeeling and harsh actions of the South African authorities. And it will, in all probability, also be broached in the United Nations this week when South Africa's new constitution is discussed for the second time in a matter of months.

TROM31"°"z'fpg5UCV5¾."d5¾."d1""t, ungovernability, abound[illegible] radical organizations. The objective of the agitators, most of whom are apparently militant youths, is nothing less than the revolutionary overthrow of the present dispensation.

Mr F.W. de Klerk, minister of internal affairs, said last weekend that South Africa had reached a watershed in its history. The country was engaged in a decisive battle for survival against revolutionary forces that had purposefully chosen the black residential areas and educational institutions as their battlefield. The outcome of the conflict in the black townships is therefore of crucial importance, not only to the local population, even though they have borne the brunt. It concerns the future development of the country as a whole and indeed its survival as a civilized Western-style society.

It can simply be of no coincidence that every solicitous effort to eliminate valid grievances and accomodate the residents has come to nought and that the main thrust of disturbances has been aimed specifically at the most successful black local authorities in the country, those of Lekoa and Evaton. Until August this year these areas, of which Sebokeng, (Zamdila), and Sharpeville comprise the greater part, have been model townships. And even though they had not been involved in the 1976 riots, they have during the past 2 months become caught up in the vicious circle of violence and self-destruction. Since the beginning of the unrest early in September, 26 people, 4 of them councillors of local authorities, have been killed in continuing violence and 167 have been seriously injured. Up to 8 October damage to buildings and dwellings amount to more than 30 million rands.

Operation Palmiet represents drastic action. By all standards the use of police, railways police, and defense force in a joint operation of this magnitude constituted a drastic step. Nevertheless, it remains the duty of the authorities to wield the power at their disposal when, as in this case, all else have failed. In addition to all its other functions, it remains the fundamental task of the authorities to guarantee and ensure an orderly way of life.

ANC Condemns RSA Swoop

EA241227 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 23 Oct 84

[ANC program; station commentary: "The Township of Sebokeng Falls Into an Operational Area"]

[Text] Hitlerite fascism is alive and well in South Africa. Today the world (?feels alarmed) and shocked at the massive show of force by the Pretoria racist regime. In the wee hours of the morning today, some 7,000 troops with police surrounded the township of Sebokeng and house-to-house searches were conducted. Reports coming from the area say that thousands of South African police and troops sealed off the township of Sebokeng in the early hours of today. Seven thousand troops and police swooped on the township and carried out house-to-house searches. The reports say that Sabokeng was transformed into a military camp as thousands of white soldiers in combat gear lined the dusty streets.

Standing with assault rifles at the ready, the soldiers are reported to have cordoned off sections of the township while police [illegible] and arrests of hundreds of people. Reporters (?taken) by armored personnel carriers at day break saw young soldiers spaced some 15 meters apart along the main road. Stunned black people, wearing bright orange or green stickers to show that they had been cleared by the Security Forces looked on from their front doors with expressions of [words indistinct]. The roar of armored troop carriers and a helicopter clattering overhead mingled with the crackle of radio sets and the barking of thousands of kenneled police dogs completed the scene of a township under siege, a township turned into a concentration camp within a few hours.

The operation codenamed Palmiet in Afrikaans, which means bullrush in English, was launched to restore law and order, according to fascist minister Louis le Grange. He said that the

situation has been fanned by what he referred to as revolutionary elements but also exploited by criminal and intimidatory forces. He went on to say that his troops will restore law and order whatever the cost and that they will stay in the townships as long as is necessary. We recall that it is not the first time that Louis le Grange refers to revolutionary elements. During the election boycott and when the unrest first began he spoke of a revolutionary situation emerging.

Clearly this is the reflection of apartheid thinking. They are scared stiff of the revolution which they see advancing in their sleeping and waking hours, the stamp stamp of the masses of the people marching inevitably towards the destruction of apartheid is with them. This mobilization of 7,000 troops for a small township like Sebokeng, wherein we could say there is now almost one soldier for every five to 10 people, has turned this township into an operational area. That is the extent to which Pretoria is scared. Yes, they are trying to intimidate us, they are trying sow fear into our hearts. Yet even the action itself is a demonstration of deep-rooted fear within the enemy ranks. We cannot help but feel optimism that the regime is becoming desperate with each passing day, that we are steadily gaining the upper hand. This is a life and death struggle.

They say they have invaded Sebokeng to look for weapons. Another demonstration of the fear that is eating out their hearts. Have they not been saying that Umkhonto we Sizwe, the African National Congress, has been destroyed. Now they are playing a completely different tune. They are actually telling our people that Umkhonto is alive and well. Yes, it is true. The death defying cadres of Umkhonto we Sizwe are there. They are among the people. We will strike at a time and place of our choosing. The revolutionary struggle cannot stop. We are too far advanced in the path of struggle to allow them to intimidate us with a show of force.

Botha Tells Neighbors 'Think Twice' on Sanctions

MB240925 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0900 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Pretoria, Oct 24, SAPA — The foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, today warned that if "South Africa's enemies" in the United Nations succeeded in enforcing economic sanctions, South Africa's neighbors would be affected most. "And those of our neighbors who go along with these (sanction) moves should think twice," Mr Botha said from Pretoria in a follow-up to a warning made yesterday at the UN by South African ambassador, Mr Kurt von Schirnding. Mr Botha elaborated on Mr von Schirnding's statement that South Africa would withdraw its contribution to peace in the subcontinent "if the UN continues on its present course".

The minister said: "It is incompatible for our neighbors to expect South Africa, on the one hand, to support economic developments in their countries, and, on the other hand, for them to support the UN moves for sanctions against South Africa." He explained that Mr von Schirnding's words to the UN Security Council "in effect warned that it is South Africa's neighbors who will suffer most from economic sanctions against South Africa, and that those of our neighbors who go along with these moves should think twice."

Mr Botha noted that it was South Africa's "enemies" and those "elements within the UN which attack South Africa's peace initiatives" who were trying to move the Security Council in the direction of sanctions.

Botha Discusses UK Vote at UN

MB241650 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, says South Africa attaches no specific importance to Britain's negative vote against South Africa in the UN Security Council yesterday. Mr Botha was approached for comments in Pretoria after the British UN representative had supported a resolution rejecting the new South African constitution. The United States abstained in the vote.

Mr Botha said that, despite the present differences between South Africa and Britain, the government did not attach any specific meaning to the British action. Mr Botha called in the British ambassador to South Africa, Mr Patrick Moberly, for a meeting at his office in Pretoria today.

Mr Botha said after the meeting that at this delicate stage he did not want to disclose what had been discussed. He did say, however, that attention had been given to the statement in the House of Commons yesterday by the British minister for African affairs at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Mr Malcolm Rifkind. The South African government's position had been made clear and Mr Rifkind had been requested to convey the standpoint to his government. Mr Botha also said the South African viewpoint on the present state of relations between the two countries had been conveyed to Mr Moberly.

Violence Continues in East Rand Townships

MB250717 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0600 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] Violence has continued in townships on the East Rand. Police in Pretoria report stone throwing incidents in the townships in which two people have been injured, one of them a police officer. Police fired rubber bullets and tearsmoke to disperse a group of about 200 youths at the local administration board offices in Kathlehong. Near Springs, about 20 youths stoned cars in Kathlehong Hospital's parking lot, causing damage to the vehicles. No police action was taken and no arrests were made. A police patrol in Tembisa was stoned and slightly damaged but no arrests were made there as well.

Transkei Outlaws UDF, 2 Student Groups

MB241108 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0947 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Umtata, Oct 24, SAPA — The United Democratic Front (UDF), the Congress of South African Students (COSAS), and the Azanian Students Organization (AZASO) have been banned

in Transkei by proclamation in the latest issue of the *Transkei Government Gazette*. The proclamation, signed by the state president, Paramount Chief Kaiser Matanzima, declares the three organizations unlawful in Transkei.

Le Grange, Detainees Given Permission To Appeal

MB241624 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Both the South African minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, and the six men who originally took refuge in the British Consulate in Durban have been granted leave to appeal against the Supreme Court ruling on the validity of detention orders. Mr le Grange is contesting a ruling that the first orders issued for the detention of the six men were invalid. The men themselves are challenging a later decision that a new set of detention orders were valid.

The appeals are expected to be heard in the appeal court in the South African judicial capital of Bloemfontein before the end of the year. The six men are senior members of organizations opposed to South Africa's domestic policies. Three of them are still in the consulate. The other three were detained after leaving it.

Durban Wives End Fast

MB251055 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] The wives of the Durban consulate fugitives have ended their fast. Ursula David, Elsie Nair, and Edith Gumede ended their symbolic fast last night. The wives and families of the three Durban leaders in Security Police Custody, N.J. Naidoo, George Sewpersadh, and Mewa Ramgobin, also fasted for 2 days. They fasted to protest the British Government's refusal to allow families to visit the three men in the consulate.

Meanwhile, lawyers for the men are applying urgently for access to their clients so that they can start work on a court application. Yesterday they were granted leave to appeal against a court's finding validating the detention orders served on the men. Lawyers say it will be at least 6 weeks before the appeals are heard.

Government Approves Black Local Authorities

MB241157 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] The government has given the go-ahead to the 32 newly created black local authorities in the country to appoint their own law enforcement officers to patrol areas under their control. Announcing this in Pretoria today, the minister of cooperation, development, and education, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, said that he had consulted the minister of law and order, Mr Le Grange, and that local authorities could now obtain the necessary approval to appoint law enforcement officials as soon as possible.

He said that their three-fold task would be to ensure the safety of residents in their area of jurisdiction to maintain law and order and prevent crime within the area and to see to the application of proclamations made by the black local authority. Dr Viljoen emphasized that the presence of law enforcement officers would not affect capacity, activities, or duties of the South African Police.

New Deputy Minister of Home Affairs Appointed

MB250637 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, has announced the appointment of the former leader of the New Republic Party [NRP] in Natal, Mr Ron Miller, as deputy minister of home affairs. The appointment takes effect on 1 November. At the recent Natal congress of the NRP, Mr Miller and two other NRP members of parliament announced their resignation from the party and joined the National Party. Mr Miller, an industrial psychologist, is the member for Durban North.

Mr Botha also announced the creation of the deputy minister's portfolio in the white ministers council. The deputy minister of health and welfare, Dr George Morrison, is now also deputy minister of health services and welfare. In addition, the Department of Industries and Commerce changes its name to the Department of Trade and industries. These changes also come into effect on 1 November.

Official Says Strikes Legitimate, But Undesirable

MB250644 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] The director general of manpower, Dr Piet van der Merwe, says the government recognizes strikes as a legitimate weapon and does not intend to deprive workers of that right. However, he says, strikes are counterproductive and undesirable and the main problem is to prevent labor unrest from spilling over into community violence.

Addressing a press luncheon in Washington, Dr van der Merwe said that he believed most black workers opposed disinvestment by foreign companies in South Africa because multinational companies were playing a significant role in improving work and environment conditions for blacks.

Dr van der Merwe said that black workers in South Africa would exercise their strong economic muscle increasingly for broader political rights. However, he added, that a system of one-man-one-vote could not work and a more acceptable model would have to be evolved. Dr van der Merwe said that labor reforms allowing blacks to participate in trade unions had brought more strikes, but the government knew that it was coming and had been quite prepared for it.

2 ANC Members Arrested by Police, Arms Captured

MB241325 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1225 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Pretoria, Oct 24, SAPA — A trained African National

Congress member was caught by the police last week, leading to the discovery of a cache of arms and the arrest of another ANC member, the police announced in Pretoria today. Commissioner of police, General Johann Coetzee, said the first of the two ANC members arrested was carrying a Swaziland passport and was caught while trying to leave South Africa for Swaziland. The statement did not say what his nationality actually is. The follow-up security police investigation had led to the discovery of various arms caches, which included explosives, weapons, and ammunition of Russian origin, Gen Coetzee said.

The police commissioner said he had to mention "only a few examples" of the arms found to show the importance of the discovery. Among the arms caches, he said, were "plastic explosives, limpet mines, hand grenades, AK-47 guns, and hand weapons, together with large quantities of ammunition (and) a quantity of TNT."

"A large amount of ANC and communist propaganda literature," was also unearthed. Gen Coetzee said the follow-up operation had also led to the arrest of a female military trained ANC member. The investigation was continuing in terms of the Internal Security Act, he added.

Radio Freedom Interviews ANC Secretary General
EA240348 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 22 Oct 84

[ANC program]

[Text] Compatriots, the ever-surging popular upsurge in our country has proved to be more stronger than the regime's repressive methods. Since the uprising started with the class boycott early this year, the dictators in Pretoria have used all means and methods at their disposal trying to diffuse the situation. Scores of innocent and unarmed demonstrators have been murdered in cold blood, amongst them school children, and countless others have been maimed and others imprisoned.

On the other hand, the racists have also tried to use their monkey tricks to try and confuse the people, but all has failed and the unrest is spreading. The question that concerns us all, singly and collectively, is what do we do to further strengthen this popular offensive in order to make our country increasingly ungovernable.

Dear compatriots, while we continue resisting the practices of the apartheid oppressors, we must start shifting from the defensive to the offensive. For us to make the country increasingly ungovernable, we must start by disrupting and attacking the enemy's instruments of power, the very same departments and bodies that are daily used to maintain the oppression.

We must make it impossible for the puppet bodies, like the community councils and the bantustans, to continue presiding over our daily lives. What is happening today in the Ciskei bantustan and in the African areas around the Vaal Triangle must be extended to cover the entire country. To achieve that we must ensure that all our people are in fact organized. The democratic trade union movement has a duty to make sure that all workers are drawn into trade unions wherever they are.

At present, large sections of our working people are outside trade unions. We must not allow this situation to continue any longer. The same also applies to the democratic students movement, which is to ensure that all our school going children are drawn into these organizations. Dear compatriots, this year is the year of the women. So it is the duty of all of us, men and women alike, to mobilize this potentially mighty force into the ranks of the democratic movement.

At the same time we must prepare conditions for the armed liberation struggle which is intensifying with every passing day. All combatants must be drawn into the underground structures of Umkhonto We Sizwe. So, as we continue to confront the enemy in the streets of our townships, we must at the same time be organizing small underground cells of a few trustworthy individuals and seek contact with the underground ANC structures.

Fellow countrymen, the mobilization of all the sections of our people is the main task facing all the democratic forces of our country. How do we carry out this task? What can be done to ensure that all our people, all the forces of change in our country are mobilized and organized into a single mighty force for liberations? How do we address ourselves to the burning questions of the time? What are the tasks facing the entire membership of the ANC? These are the questions which Radio Freedom posed to our secretary-general, Comrade Alfred Nzo, and this is what he said:

[Begin recording] That the task of the ANC, first of all, overall, its overall task is to mobilize our people for the intensification of the struggle, all-round intensification. That is our task, all-round in so far as the internal situation is concerned. It is a task of the ANC also to work for the reconsolidation of the international solidarity movement, which must remain committed to the struggle of our people, and not try to consolidate what has been achieved internationally, but also to, as usual, work out to win even more new allies into that solidarity movement. Now then, those are the overall tasks. What then are our people expected to do?

Now in their various formations, the youth, the women, the religious community, the super-exploited working class, peoples organizations in the local areas and on a national level, it is the task of the democratic movement itself inside the country to strengthen and consolidate itself. Now the only way of strengthening and consolidating itself will not be by way of folding arms and resting on the laurels. But by going out and reaching the people, mobilizing them to firmly take their day-to-day issues that affect them at local level, regional level and also issues that affect our people on a national level.

In other words, the organizations of the people must then undertake the task of being the HQ for this mass movement which must be generated to continue to assail all the, shall we say, bastions of repression inside our country today. Now in particular the most important formation of our people, the United Democratic Front, must be further supported to enable it to carry out its very vital and important task of mobilizing our people to take up the

issues that concern them. We must recall also that the ANC declared 1984 the year of the women. In the light of the development that has taken place, we must never lose sight of the importance of that declaration and that (?decision).

As women constitute more than 50 percent, 50 percent of our population, the women in most cases (?rather) are languishing for lengthy periods in the day bear the full brunt of having to mobilize to sustain the families that are left behind, whereas the women in their efforts to eke out an existence and a living for them because of their special social position in our society are the most cruelly exploited.

Now the potential therefore of that kind of social force is so great that it is absolutely essential first and foremost to ensure during the year 1984 that formations already that are in existence mobilizing the women for all aspects of our struggle must be strengthened. But it also must be, we must aim to achieve, is that to see that the efforts must not be dissipated but all attempts must be made to unify those efforts. In other words, the women's groupings that have been established inside the country must in 1984 make every serious effort to unify so that the women can then truly act and speak in one voice.

You know there are various groupings that have come out. But not a single one is pursuing aims different from the general democratic aim of our struggle, which aims at the social and national liberation of the oppressed people in our country. Therefore, it would be easier with that starting point to say that it is possible for all those formations to be unified so that the women act as one force and speak in one voice. That is much more urgently required especially during this year.

Now of course it is quite obvious that this cannot be done without paying better attention to the daily problem as it is, as the strength of the movement will depend on its ability to reach out and lead the people to confront the problems that affect them on a daily basis.

What are these questions? Questions of rent, questions of increased transport. At the factory level, questions of the economic exploitation of the worker by the bosses. On the national level there is something that is plaguing our society and has done so for a very long time. So that is the question of the mass removal that has intensified the misery that our people have to face.

I think it is necessary that we should never lose sight of the importance of being in solidarity with those that are engaged in that struggle, that are resisting that form of oppression by the regime. What about the people of crossroads? Their struggle, how far has it gone? Is it being supported? What about the people who have been (?vehemently) resisting removals in various parts of our country? Have they been supported? Or are we saying that it will be our [words indistinct] are the property of the whole people and must be taken up by the entire people? What about the growing repression against our people in the bantustans? I think we have managed to [word indistinct] the fallacy of the argument that the [word indistinct] between the bantustans are therefore living within the system and are no concern of the other people in South Africa. [passage indistinct]

Because those people who are opposed in the bantustans are therefore in a very real sense subscribing to the demands of those who say South Africa is a unitary state and therefore the independence of all our people cannot be divided into the Transkei, into Venda, into the Ciskei, and so forth. But that those who are opposing the implementation of the bantustan policy inside the bantustans deserve the support of everybody else. Through concrete action not just merely by pronouncing support, but through concrete action and concrete action only can mean intensification of our own struggle in the areas where we are, and of course mobilizing ourselves for [words indistinct] being on a national level in support of the struggle of the people that has taken place in one or the other of the bantustans. [passage indistinct]

The cause of solidarity must be strengthened within the rest of the entire oppressed population and also we must make sure that ranks of the democratic whites are strengthened. In other words, the further escalation of the democratic process in the white community must grow. This is (?possible) especially within the younger generation within this community and that must be strengthened. They too have got problems that they must take up now and again: Why must they allow themselves to be involved in an army that defends the system that is condemned by everybody, by the international community and by the majority of our people inside the country. Shouldn't they therefore strengthen the rejection mood that is growing within the white youth inside our country?

Now these are questions which are very important and it must be recognized that you know the solidarity also of the democratic section of the population of the white population is of vital importance. In fact the enemy has been found to be so afraid of this kind of solidarity that it has gone out of its way to seek to suppress the (?development) of any growth trend within the white section of the population because they know that with its growth you see, will mean the erosion of the social base of the apartheid system and that is what the entire democratic movement must aim to. [end recording]

That was the secretary-general of the ANC comrade Alfred Nzo, answering some burning questions of our time.

Oil Security Topic for Talks in Lesotho

MB250653 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] The minister of mineral and energy affairs, Mr Danie Steyn, is to head a government delegation to the Interstate Oil Committee meeting between South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho, and Swaziland in Maseru today. The meeting will discuss oil matters and the security of oil supplies. Senior officials of the four governments met in the Lesotho capital yesterday to prepare for today's ministerial meeting.

ZAMBIA

Reportage on Tripartite Celebrations; Speeches

Kaunda Speaks at Celebration

MB241700 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Speech by President Kenneth Kaunda at the 23 October Tripartite celebrations in Lusaka — live]

[Excerpts] Countrymen, there can be no doubt that in the United National Independence Party's [UNIP] 26 years of existence UNIP has scored great [word indistinct]. It secured freedom and independence for the people of Zambia, 20 years ago tomorrow. It has succeeded in effectively consolidating that independence by molding the people of Zambia in a truely national entity, and by estblishing a modern and well administered government. Moreover, UNIP has succeeded in evolving a national philosophy of humanism, which emphasizes the (?centrality) of man. [Passage indistinct] having made these momentous achievements over the past 20 years, do we now sit back and relax? Not at all. Instead, the nation should forge ahead with future developments in all the five main areas of human endeavor.

Fellow countrymen, in foreign affairs our record of success has also been (? impressive). Today Zambia's many friends look up to her and respect her for her principled stand on many international issues. We have earned this image of respectability because our policy is guided by the philosophy of humanism. It is based on love, truth, social justice, and fair play.

Our foreign policy is one of peace and human dignity. As we enter the 21 year of our independence, therefore, I want to say that we shall continue with the policies that we have pursued up to now. We reaffirm our belief in nonalignment, good neighborliness, noninterference in the internal affairs of other independent nations, and in international peace, security, and harmony.

We shall continue to support liberation movements and to join forces with those that are working for the eradication of apartheid and racism. It is also my hope that we shall continue to be worthy members of the United Nations, the OAU, the Nonaligned Movement, and of other continental and subregional organisations.

As Zambia has this year been honored to be elected to the presidency of the 39th session of the UN General Assembly, I want to take this opportunity to thank first of all the states for their support. I hope that through our man at the United Nations we shall be able to discharge our duties of this high office to the satisfaction of all.

Up to now I have given you the impression that all has been well, yet you must know from your own experience that this has not been so. The achievements which we have made in the various fields of human endeavor have been made in spite of the many problems that have stood in our way. The first problems arose out of the effects of the Unilateral Declaration of Independence, UDI, and liberation wars on our economy and security. UDI, as we all know, came only 1 year after our independence. Fearing that Southern Rhodesia would also go the Malawi and Zambian way, the whites there declared themselves independent of the British, because they did not want Southern Rhodesia to be independent with a predominantly black government.

The escalation of the liberation wars in Angola, Mozambique, and indeed Zimbabwe meant that more and more of our resources had to be diverted elsewhere to meet the needs of defense and security.

Much as the party and its government have confidence in the resilience of our economy, recovery will not be achieved easily or quickly. It will be very slow and painful. Meanwhile, we have to continue to make sacrifices and to take tough measures. On the other hand we have to restructure our economy so that agriculture receives much more of our attention than we have been able to give it in past years.

We have achieved freedom and independence. I believe that these two, just these two, are worth celebrating. But we have achieved more. We have also achieved unity, peace, and stability. These too are worthy of rejoicing. Furthermore, our quality of life has improved since independence.

On behalf of the Central Committee, I pay tribute to you all for your (?exertions). But, as we enter the 21st year of independence, remember that what has been achieved so far has been possible due to the collective efforts of all Zambians. We have worked in unity and through this party to accomplish many tasks.

Comrades, together we have made it through all these years. I am sure together we can make it again for the next 20 years. Goodnight, and may God bless you all.

Kaunda Addresses Visiting Leaders

MB242020 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1830 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Address by President Kaunda to visiting heads of state and government at state dinner held at Interncontinental Hotel in Lusaka during tripartite anniversary celebrations — live]

[Text] Your Excellencies the heads of state and government, Your Excellencies the heads of diplomatic missions, distinguished guests, brothers, and sisters. Let me once again extend to you our warmest welcome. I hope you have felt at home, because this is your other home. Our home is your home, no matter how limited facilities might be. We are sorry we could not make you any more comfortable that we did, due to limited resources, both human and material.

However, as you know, the idea was for us to have this privilege of sharing your company on what is a very important occasion for us. If we have not been able to make you as comfortable as you would have wished, this was not deliberate. This was due to the various serious economic problems that we face, as a result of the world-wide recession. I'm sure all my colleagues and friends and comrades in the common struggle know about this only too well.

All the same, we have been struggling to build a better future for ourselves. We continue to do so. We have made some progress in this respect. Obviously, we need to do much more. Again, as you know, development only starts, it never ends. One of the outcomes of these economic problems is that our people are queueing for bread, detergents, and some essential items. We are trying hard, very hard indeed, to solve these problems. But the options for a developing country to solve these problems quickly are very limited indeed. This is quite frustrating, and gives our people the impression that we in government are not trying hard enough. The truth is we are trying very hard to combat the effects of world recession.

Your Excellencies and comrades. Brothers and sisters, no country is an island these days, and no country can solve its problems entirely by itself. That is where the need for cooperation comes in. We need to cooperate, so that common problems can be solved through cooperative effort. That is why we need the OAU. The OAU is essential for the fostering of brotherhood, unity, and interdependence among the African family of nations. It is the parent organization of African states. By far the greatest number of African states belong to the comparatively youngest group of states in the world. It therfore follows that if their parent died, there would be no guarantee that their future patrons would be committed to their causes to the same extent as the OAU. Indeed, it may well usher in an era of the recolonization of African states.

The present brotherhood, unity, and interdependence would then be buried together with the OAU. Zambia would therefore like to use this opportunity to call for the continued defense of the OAU against its enemies, and to pledge unflinching support for it and closer cooperation among its members, in order to promote greater understanding and unity among them.

Brothers and sisters, excellencies, dear colleagues and comrades, it is now my honor and privilege to invite you all to join me in a toast to the personal good health of all heads of state and government here present, to the happiness, prosperity, and closer cooperation of the OAU members and their governments. To the heads of state!

National, Party Anniversary Continues

MB241858 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Festivals marking Zambia's tripartite celebrations continued with the laying of the foundation stone for the new party headquarters, laying of wreaths at the Freedom Statue, and a colorful march and flypast today. His excellency the president, Dr Kenneth Kaunda, who laid the foundation stone for the new party headquarters, was later joined by the visiting six heads of state and government at the laying of wreaths and the march past.

In a recital read just before President Kaunda and the six heads of state and government, as well as two vice presidents from two neighboring countries, Freedom House Administrative Secretary (Rankin Sikasula) paid homage to the fallen heroes who sacrificed their lives to make Zambia what it is today.

Mr (Sikasula) said because of the fallen heroes' love, devotion, and contributions to the country's independence, Zambia is today commemorating her 20th anniversary of liberty, which is united, peaceful, and strong. He pledged that the leadership will uphold the values and goals for which these heroes sacrificed their lives, and that the dignity and liberty of man to forge democratic and progressive institutions will be the cornerstone of the nation.

Others who laid wreaths at the Freedom Statue are President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, Samora Machel of Mozambique, Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya, Eduardo dos Santos of Angola, and Quett Masire of Botswana. Others who laid wreaths at the statue are Prime Minister Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe, Zairean vice president (Kititwa Tomasi), and the vice president of the DPRK, Yi Chong-ok.

At the end of the march past, Dr Kaunda phoned a farmer at Landless Corner in Chisamba using a solar powered rural radio telephone devised by the posts and telecommunications corporation. The president described the innovation as revolutionary, and called on the nation to double its efforts in farming to cut down in food imports, which he said are costly.

Mugabe Met by Kaunda on Arrival in Lusaka

MB240940 Harare Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Six heads of state and government arrived in Zambia yesterday to celebrate the country's 20th independence anniversary today. The celebration coincides with the 26th anniversary of the ruling party, UNIP, and the 60th birthday of President Kenneth Kaunda. The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe was met at the Lusaka Airport by President Kaunda and other senior government officials.

Machel, Angola's Dos Santos Meet in Lusaka

MB240840 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0400 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] President Samora Machel, who arrived in Lusaka, Zambia, yesterday, held a meeting last evening with Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the head of state of Angola. The 1-hour meeting was held at the request of the Angolan president, according to our correspondent in Lusaka. At the meeting, the two presidents discussed internal issues in each of their countries and the situation in southern Africa. It is also thought that they referred to the recent talks held in Luanda between the Angolan Government and the United States on the withdrawal of the South African troops from Angola. The Angolan head of state briefed President Samora Machel on the recent removal of Paulo Jorge as minister of external affairs of Angola.

ZIMBABWE

UK Approves Extension of Military Training Team

MB250712 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] The secretary to defense, Comrade James Chitauro, yesterday announced that the British Government has agreed to Zimbabwe's request to keep the British military advisory and training team a little longer. The Zimbabwe National Army has identified further areas in which the team is of help.

Briefs

New Nigerian Envoy — The president, Comrade Canaan Banana, has received the credentials of the new Nigerian high commissioner to Zimbabwe, Mr Sani Bello. The ceremony, which was held at State House in Harare, was attended by the acting minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Morris Nyagumbo, government officials, and the Nigerian head of chancery, Mr Micky Braide. Mr Bello, a retired army officer, is the second Nigerian high commissioner to Zimbabwe. He replaces Mr Michael (Tolodu), who left the country last year. [Text] [*Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 19 Oct 84 MB*]